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## ABSTRACT

This is a statistical study of the library facilities in Missouri. The location and resources of all public libraries and for most of the other types are analyzed and compared. Particular consideration is given to the comparative distribution of libraries and to the services they render rural as compared with urban population. Here, it is indicated that more than one and one-half million people in Missouri, most of them rural, are not served by public libraries. While revenue for maintenance has declined during the past five years, the total book circulation has materially increased in all classes of libraries.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The completion of this study was made possible through the active cooperation of a number of persons, including Mrs. Ada M. Elliott, president, Missouri Library Association; Miss Ruth O'Malley, secretary of the Missouri Library Commission; Mr. Henry O. Severance, librarian of the University of Missouri; Mr. E. M. Carter, secretary of the Missouri State Teachers' Association; Mr. Carl H. Milam, secretary of the American Library Association; Miss Margaret Benson of the University of Missouri; and particularly the many local librarians, school superintendents, and institution executives, who cooperated by making the original data available. To all of these and others the authors are greatly indebted.

# The Libraries of Missouri

## A Survey of Facilities

E. L. MORGAN AND MELVIN W. SNEED\*

### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

**Purpose.**—It is the purpose of this study to ascertain the types, distribution, and services rendered by libraries in Missouri, together with the condition and circumstances under which various types of services are available. The inquiry is particularly directed toward the library facilities available to farm families.

**Scope.**—The inquiry was extended throughout the state and applied to public, private, high school, institutional, college, special, and rental libraries. Data were obtained from all public libraries and for a comparatively large sample of other types. The size of samples is indicated in the discussion of each type. Data concerning libraries in the cities of St. Louis and Kansas City were not included, except as indicated in a few considerations. Elementary school libraries were excluded.

**Procedure.**—The original data were obtained through schedules† prepared by the staff of the department of rural sociology and sent to libraries, school superintendents, and to the executives of various institutions. The public library mailing list was compiled largely from one prepared by the secretary of the Missouri Library Commission. This list was supplemented by materials which were made available from the previous studies.‡ A complete register of school superintendents was furnished by the Missouri State Teachers' Association. All population data, unless otherwise indicated, have been taken from the Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930.

The data have been analyzed by simple statistical methods, with frequent tabular and graphic presentation. Averages and other computations have been made for most classifications. In this manner it was attempted to provide typical measures which would reveal the status of library facilities under various circumstances. The services available to farm families are shown both quantitatively and in comparative relation to those available within cities.

\*Submitted by the junior author in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in the Graduate School of the University of Missouri, 1936.

†See appendix, pp. 80-81.

‡These data were made available through a recent Federal Civil Works Service Research Project on social resources in Missouri. This work was planned by Dr. E. L. Morgan, Professor of Rural Sociology, and the gathering of the data was under the direction of Mr. Douglas Ensminger in 1934. During the course of the project a number of previously unrecorded social organizations and institutions, including several small libraries, were found to be part of Missouri's social resources.

## I. PUBLIC LIBRARY FACILITIES

**Some Backgrounds.**—As a preliminary step in the presentation of quantitative data pertaining to public libraries in Missouri it appears worth while to include a brief description of certain social and physiographic factors in the midst of which libraries have been organized and which may have acted as environmental determinants in their development.

The total population of Missouri in 1930 was 3,629,367 persons. Urban residents numbered 1,859,119 persons and comprised 51.2 per cent of the state population. In rural areas there were 1,770,248 persons constituting the remaining 48.8 per cent of the total population. Rural-farm population consisted of 30.6 per cent of the total, while 18.2 per cent resided in places having up to 2,500 population. Incorporated cities provided residence for 61.7 per cent of the people, while the remaining 38.3 per cent of the total were listed in unincorporated territory.<sup>1</sup>

In 1930 the city of St. Louis, which has the legal status of a county, had a population of 821,960 persons. This amounted to 22.7 per cent of the total state population. The next five most populous counties were: Jackson, including Kansas City; Buchanan, including the city of St. Joseph; Greene, including the city of Springfield; Jasper, including the city of Joplin; and St. Louis county, including University City and Webster Groves as its principal cities. These five counties contained an additional 25.8 per cent of the total population of the state. Eleven counties had from 30,000 to 40,000 persons and accounted for 10.0 per cent of the total. Populations of 20,000 to 30,000 were reported in 20 counties, with 13.6 per cent of the total number of people represented. There were 63 counties with populations of 10,000 to 20,000. These counties accounted for 24.5 per cent of the total number of persons residing in this state. The remaining 3.4 per cent of the population were found in 15 counties with enumerations of less than 10,000 persons. The six most populous counties included almost 50 per cent of the state population, leaving 50 per cent to be divided among the remaining 109 counties. Missouri ranked tenth among the states in total population.<sup>2</sup>

At the last census, negroes constituted 6.2 per cent of the state population, whites 93.6 per cent, and the remaining 0.2 per cent was made up of other races. Urban population was 9.1 per cent negro, rural-nonfarm 3.7 per cent, while 2.7 per cent of the farm population was of this race.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Population Bulletin, Second Series, Missouri, p. 3.

<sup>2</sup>Burt, Henry J., *The Population of Missouri*, Research Bulletin 188 (1933), Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, pp. 57 and 113.

<sup>3</sup>Fifteenth Census of the United States, *op. cit.*, p. 5.

Persons under 5 years of age comprised 8.4 per cent of the population at the census year, an additional 27.3 per cent were 5 to 20 years of age, 57.5 per cent were 20 to 65, and 6.7 per cent were 65 and over.<sup>4</sup> Rural young people (defined as those between the ages of 15 and 30) totaled 422,070, of which 62.0 per cent were on farms, and 38.0 per cent in villages.<sup>5</sup>

There were 730,854 persons 5 to 20 years of age attending school in 1930. This number represented 69.4 per cent of the total number of persons in this age group. In the rural-farm population 68.0 per cent of this age group were attending school, whereas in the rural-nonfarm classification it composed 70.4 per cent.<sup>6</sup>

Illiterate persons<sup>7</sup> made up 2.3 per cent of the total population, with 0.6 per cent of all persons 10 to 20 years of age, and 2.8 per cent of all persons 21 years of age and over, being illiterate. The state male population was 2.6 per cent illiterate, while this was true for only 2.0 per cent of the female population. Illiteracy in urban areas amounted to 1.7 per cent of the population while the rural population had 2.9 per cent. The state negro population was 8.8 per cent illiterate, with 6.5 per cent of the urban negro population and 16.6 per cent of the rural showing illiteracy.<sup>8</sup> Illiteracy within the several counties ranged from a low of 0.7 per cent to a high of 11.6 per cent.<sup>9</sup>

Missouri ranks eighteenth among the states in total area, with 68,727 square miles. In 1930 the state had a population density of 52.8 persons per square mile. The density for all states combined was 41.3; for Iowa it was 44.5; for Kansas, 23.0; and for Nebraska, 17.9 persons per square mile.<sup>10</sup>

In their variety of soils few states are comparable with Missouri. In fact, this state may be considered the meeting ground of all important soil regions of the Mississippi Valley. The result of such varied soil conditions is a varied agriculture. It can be said that such agriculture is neither northern nor southern, eastern nor western. It possesses the characteristics of all these regions.<sup>11</sup> Topographically, Missouri is naturally divided into four great regions: the North Missouri glacial and loessial region, the Southwest prairie region, the Ozark region, and the Southeast lowland region. These regions are not confined to Missouri alone, but each forms a part of a large area which extends into adjoining states.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>4</sup>Ibid, p. 6. The additional 0.1 per cent was unknown.

<sup>5</sup>Burt, Henry J., *op. cit.*, p. 96.

<sup>6</sup>Fifteenth Census of the United States, *op. cit.*, p. 9.

<sup>7</sup>U. S. census definition of illiteracy, i. e., any person 10 years of age or over who is unable to read and write.

<sup>8</sup>Fifteenth Census of the United States, *op. cit.*, p. 10.

<sup>9</sup>Ibid, pp. 25-32.

<sup>10</sup>Burt, Henry J., *op. cit.*, pp. 114-115.

<sup>11</sup>Miller, M. F. and Krusekopf, H. H., *The Soils of Missouri*, Bulletin 264 (1929), Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, p. 4.

<sup>12</sup>Ibid, pp. 7-8.

Approximately 65.0 per cent of the state's population is served by the highway plan known as the Centennial Road System. Through this, the Missouri State Highway Commission has developed a comprehensive highway program of 16,260 miles, which, it is expected, will be completed by 1938. The highway plan consists of:

Primary system (national highways) and spurs	1,651.0 miles
Secondary (state highways)	5,877.0
Additional state roads	291.1
Park connections	90.2
Traffic relief roads	351.3
Supplementary state roads (farm-to-market)	8,000.0 (approx.)
Total mileage .....	16,260.6

The primary system has been constructed, the secondary system is completed or under contract and, of the remaining mileage, about 40 per cent has been constructed. The primary system serves about 45 per cent of the population of the state, the secondary about 15 per cent, and the completed supplementary system will serve an additional 15 to 20 per cent. All of the 72 urban centers,<sup>13</sup> 594 out of 773 incorporated cities and towns, and 461 unincorporated villages are located on a state highway.<sup>14</sup>

The remaining portion of the state population (about 35 per cent, which is largely rural) is served by county roads. These roads, as distinguished from highways and farm-to-market roads, are still constructed and maintained by the county, organized township, or special road district. In most rural counties these roads constitute 80 to 90 per cent of the total road mileage.<sup>15</sup> The adequacy and maintenance of county roads varies from county to county. In 1929 a study of 33 sample counties revealed that three of these counties<sup>16</sup> were best equipped with road machinery, thus providing better maintenance for county roads.<sup>17</sup> One county (Marion) was exceptional in that it had markers on most of its roads and regularly maintained over 300 miles of county roads.<sup>18</sup> A few other counties maintained about 100 miles of road, while most of them did practically nothing along this line.<sup>19</sup>

The total valuation of taxable property as adjusted by the State Board of Equalization for the year 1934 was over three and

<sup>13</sup>Places having 2,500 or more population.

<sup>14</sup>Missouri State Planning Board, *A State Plan for Missouri, Preliminary Report*, 1934, p. 49.

<sup>15</sup>Bradshaw, William L., *The Missouri County Court*, The University of Missouri Studies, Vol. VI, No. 2, 1931, p. 143.

<sup>16</sup>Adair, Holt, and Marion.

<sup>17</sup>Bradshaw, William L., *op. cit.*, p. 169.

<sup>18</sup>Ibid.

<sup>19</sup>Ibid.

two-thirds billions of dollars.<sup>20</sup> This valuation amounts to approximately \$1,000 per capita.

By counties, the average total tax rate levied for all purposes in 1934 ranged from a low of \$0.72 per hundred dollars valuation in Buchanan county to a high of \$2.70 in Stoddard county. The average rate of school taxes levied ranged from \$0.29 in St. Charles county to \$1.11 in Dunklin county.<sup>21</sup> State aid per rural school child by counties in 1933 was as follows: Counties receiving \$0.00-\$4.00 totaled 9; those receiving \$4.01-\$5.25 numbered 18; an additional 30 counties obtained \$5.26-\$6.50; funds of \$6.51-\$7.75 were obtained by 24 counties; while 33 counties (approximately 30 per cent) received \$7.76 and over. The larger amounts of state aid per child were concentrated in the regions of poorer lands.<sup>22</sup>

The above description of various elements that are associated in general with public libraries in this state is by no means complete, but it is hoped that even such brief mention will serve to suggest the background of existing library facilities in Missouri.

**Public Library Defined.**—The term "public library" is variously used in Missouri. In general, however, the term is used in connection with those institutions that provide free reading materials to the public. Rural libraries of this nature are few. "Public library," in rural terminology, is frequently "just a collection of books" which may or may not be available for free use. Thus in some instances a small collection of 75 or 100 books which is placed at public disposal, for a fee, finds itself misnamed the "Local Public Library." Again, the high school book collection becomes known as the "public library", and, perhaps, rightly so in cases where the school has expanded its library with public service in view. In addition, there are club libraries, church libraries, and individual book collections. Each in turn may become known within its own locality as a public library. In many states rural people have access to the facilities of a county library, but in Missouri this type is practically unknown. Some rural Missourians are, however, familiar with the "traveling library" (or "loan library"). This is a collection of books forwarded to communities, public libraries, schools, study clubs, or individuals by the Missouri Library Commission.

What, then, is a "public library"? The Committee on Library Extension of the American Library Association interprets "public library" in a broad sense, to include all libraries that give general, free, public service, under any form of management and support.

<sup>20</sup>Missouri State Tax Commission, *Ninth Biennial Report, 1933-1934*, pp. 18-21. The exact figures for the total valuation were \$3,674,623,747. (This does not include merchants' and manufacturers' valuations, which are not certified to the State Tax Commission or the State Board of Equalization, nor does it include the valuation of private railroad cars.)

<sup>21</sup>Report of the State Auditor of Missouri, 1933-1934, pp. 656-658.

<sup>22</sup>*Efficient Use of Missouri Lands*, Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin, 1935, p. 37.



Libraries which serve a limited group or charge a fee are omitted.<sup>23</sup>

This definition will be followed in this study in so far as libraries are distinguishable. It should be noted that a number of "free, public libraries" have small rental collections aside from the general volumes available for free circulation. This of course, does not disqualify the library from classification as a public one.

**People With and Without Public Library Facilities.**—Almost a decade ago there were more than forty-five million people in the United States who were without access to public libraries. These persons constituted approximately 43 per cent of the population at that time. The remaining 57 per cent had access to 5,954 libraries.<sup>24</sup> In 1935 there were still over forty-five million people without public library facilities. These comprise about 37 per cent of the population. The remaining 63 per cent were provided with facilities through the medium of 6,235 libraries.<sup>25</sup>

Such figures may be revealing to persons who have not considered the need of library facilities. Certainly the assumption that there is a need cannot be doubted as long as such a large part of the population remains without access to free library service.

Who are these people who do not have reasonable access to public library facilities? The situation is not clearly stated when it is said that approximately half the people of the state have no access to libraries. In fact, this statement only vaguely implies the basic problem. The real problem appears through an analysis of library facilities comparatively available to rural and urban groups. Sociologically these groups differ. The farmer has lived in isolation; his mode of living, his habits, and his mental characteristics have been nurtured under different environmental conditioning factors from those present in urban life. There are many differences between rural and urban living, differences that are less acute today than was true before the present development of transportation and communication. However, the principal concern of this study is with the difference between rural and urban library opportunities in Missouri.

Recent data for the United States published by the American Library Association show that about 88 per cent of the people without public library service are residents of rural areas. Approximately forty million rural people are not served, which amounts to about 74 per cent of the total rural population.<sup>26</sup>

The study of library facilities in this state which provides the basic quantitative data for this analysis discloses a total of 135

<sup>23</sup>*Library Extension*, American Library Association, 1926, p. 19.

<sup>24</sup>*Ibid.*, pp. 20 and 29.

<sup>25</sup>*Contrasts in Library Service*, reprinted from the Bulletin of the American Library Association, 1935.

<sup>26</sup>*Ibid.*

places that have public libraries.<sup>27</sup> Two additional localities have libraries which were recently closed. Included in these 135 libraries are 52 which are tax supported, four which are endowed, and less than a dozen which receive municipal aid. Those remaining derive support from various combinations of memberships, rental fees, donations, club activities, fines, and, recently, F.E.R.A. or C.W.A. There are no county tax supported library systems in

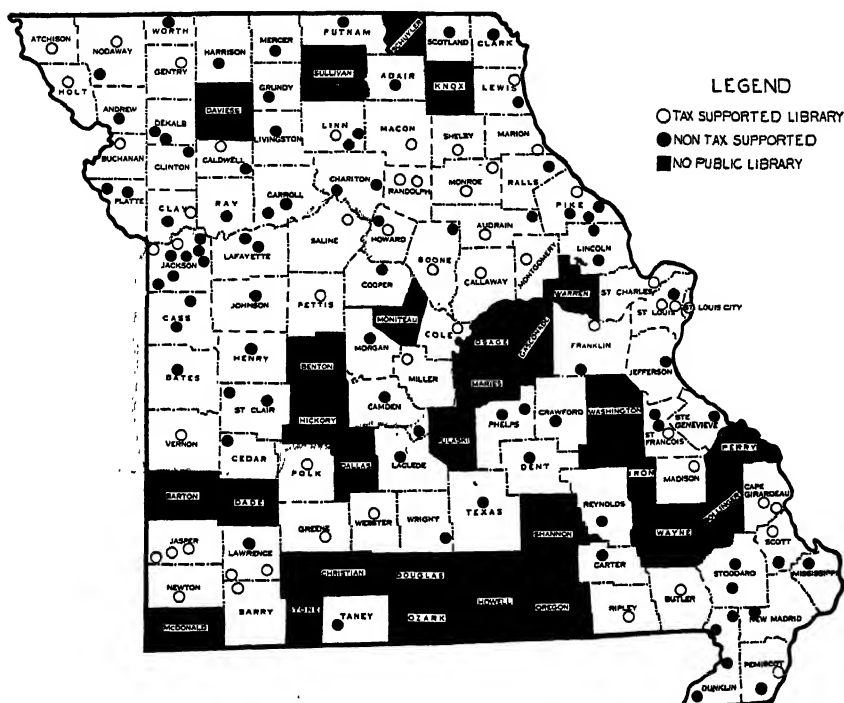


Fig. 1.—Distribution of Public Libraries in Missouri, 1935

the state although there are three or four meagre attempts at providing county service. Moreover, the total number of libraries includes several that do not wholly measure up to our definition of a public library. These have been included, however, since they are resources even though participation is, in some cases, restricted to membership or by some other prerequisite.

The distribution of libraries throughout the state is shown in Figure 1. The general distribution follows, as one might surmise, soil types and other factors which contribute to the wealth of localities. Of the 115 counties<sup>28</sup> there are 28 that have no public

<sup>27</sup>Including Kansas City and St. Louis.

<sup>28</sup>Including the city county of St. Louis.

library. All but five of the 28 are south of the Missouri River and are located in the Ozark Region, one of four major topographical regions into which the state is divided. The 44 counties north of the river contain nearly one-half of the tax supported libraries. The greatest concentration of tax support is north of the Missouri River and east from the North Central part of the state, where 13 adjoining counties have tax-supported institutions within their boundaries. These counties contain almost one-third of the total number. It should be emphasized at this point that we are dealing only in numbers of libraries and their location. These data do not show how adequately the population is served, and the reader should not misinterpret the significance of mere numbers of libraries. Along with this statement the observation should be made that although only 28 counties have no libraries several others are little better situated except for the fact that they contribute, numerically at least, to the number of counties from which libraries were reported.

The oldest public library in the state still in existence is one established in St. Louis in 1865.<sup>29</sup> This was followed by Glasgow in 1866 and by Kansas City in 1881.<sup>30</sup> The trend in the number of libraries is shown in Figure 2. This curve shows an accumulation of libraries by years in which they were founded. At any given year the number of libraries that have been established up to that time may be determined approximately by selecting the number in the scale at the left which corresponds to the point on the curve as indicated by the year concerned. The slope of the curve is gradual when the number of libraries established is few and it becomes steeper as the number becomes greater. All libraries are included except two from which no dates were reported. By 1900 only 11 were active, most of which were tax supported. In 1910 there were 29, and by 1920 there were 54. By 1930 there were 93, while the remaining 40 have been established since that date. The abrupt rise in the curve from 1933 to 1934 is to be explained in part by financial aid received in small communities from C.W.A. or F.E.R.A. funds. The general upturn since 1930 is seen to be concurrent with the years of the recent depression. Most of the libraries established during this period were in places of less than 2,500 population. The establishment of libraries has not kept pace relatively with population growth. There were 1,182,012 people in Missouri in 1860 and none of the libraries was in existence. By 1890 the population had increased to 2,679,185 and there were 7 of the present libraries.<sup>31</sup> The general trend in the total number of libraries has been upward, especially so since shortly after 1910.

<sup>29</sup>Missouri Library Commission, *Twenty-eighth Annual Report*, 1934, p. 19.

<sup>30</sup>*Ibid.*, p. 18.

<sup>31</sup>Population data from Fifteenth Census of the United States, 1930, Population Bulletin, First Series, Missouri, p. 3.

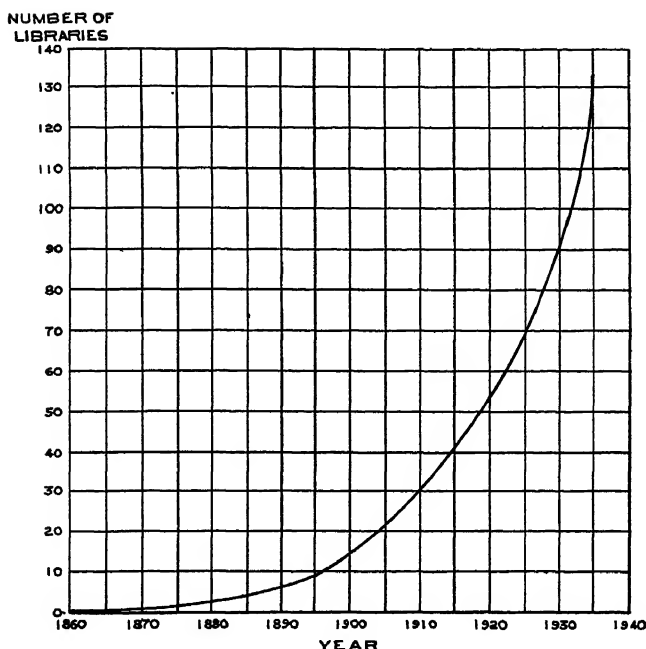


Fig. 2.—Number of Public Libraries by Years, 1860-1935.

This trend throughout has little in common with the business cycle. The years of prosperity seem to have given but little impetus to the establishment of libraries while, paradoxically enough, depression has fostered their development. Just how permanent these depression products will be remains to be seen, but the fact that they did come into being gives indication of a demand for extended library facilities in the state. Other considerations in this connection will be set forth in subsequent divisions of the report.

Table 1 gives the age of libraries. Averages were computed only for libraries for which the month as well as the year of establishment was available. Libraries established in 1935 were also excluded. The total number of months for all institutions was determined and the average number of months was derived from

TABLE 1.—AGE OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES, JULY 1, 1935

Library Classification	Number of libraries	Number of months established	Months		Years	
			Average	Median	Average	Median
Tax supported	40	9,187	229.68	207	19.14	17.25
Non Tax	53	4,106	77.42	39	6.45	3.25
All Libraries*	93	13,293	142.90	86	11.91	7.17

\*Excluding libraries for which the month of establishment was not reported and all libraries established in 1935.

that total. The average number of years was obtained by division of the average number of months by 12.<sup>32</sup> On the average, libraries in the state were about 12 years old July 1, 1935. This average was derived from data received from 93 of 133 libraries. A median number of approximately 7 years was found.<sup>33</sup> The significant feature from among the averages is the difference shown between tax and non-tax-support. Institutions receiving tax support have been established an average of 19 years with a median of slightly more than 17 years. The average in this case is somewhat biased by the relatively few older libraries in the state, and for this reason the median is perhaps more representative. Non-tax-supported ones are much younger averaging only about 6½ years with a median of slightly more than 3 years. Since a large number of small, non-tax-supported institutions have been founded during the last 5 years, the latter measures are small. The average is more typical than the median in this case. These averages indicate, in so far as they may be relied upon, that libraries are not old institutions in Missouri. Speaking generally they have not usually been numbered among the basic institutions of the community. The church, as an institution, is much older. A recent study of the rural church in this state revealed that the average age of over 2,000 churches was approximately 50 years. Only about 15 per cent of these were established since 1915.<sup>34</sup> While there has been substantial development, still it would seem that the public library in this state has not advanced as rapidly as other service institutions nor in keeping with the increase in population.

Table 2 shows that there are 1,740,897 people to whom the service is not available. This is nearly 48 per cent of the population.<sup>35</sup> The remaining 52 per cent (1,888,470) are served by the libraries listed in this study. This table also presents rural and

TABLE 2.—RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION SERVED BY PUBLIC LIBRARIES  
ACCORDING TO LIBRARY SUPPORT, 1935

Popu- lation Classi- fication	Tax Support				Non Tax		All Libraries			
	Popula- tion served	% served	Popula- tion not served	% not served	Popula- tion served	% served	Popula- tion served	% served	Popula- tion not served	% not served
Urban....	1,666,104	89.62	193,015	10.38	124,179	6.68	1,790,283	96.30	68,836	3.70
Rural....	26,067	1.47	1,744,181	98.53	72,120	4.08	98,187	5.55	1,672,061	94.45
State....	1,692,171	46.62	1,937,196	53.38	196,299	5.41	1,888,470	52.03	1,740,897	47.97

<sup>32</sup>There is some error involved in this procedure, but the approximation obtained is sufficiently accurate in this instance.

<sup>33</sup>The median is so located that one-half the libraries fall above and one-half below it. The median is a measure of central tendency and, technically, is a position average. The other average used in this connection is known, statistically, as the arithmetic average. For more adequate description of statistical methods the reader is referred to text books in Elementary Statistics—e. g., Crum, W. L., and Patton, A. C., *Economic Statistics*, A. W. Shaw Company, 1928; Mills, F. C., *Statistical Methods*, Henry Holt and Company, 1924.

<sup>34</sup>Sneed, Melvin W., and Ensminger, Douglas, *The Rural Church in Missouri*, Research Bulletin 225, (1935), Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station p. 61.

<sup>35</sup>All data here presented pertaining to people with and without library service include Kansas City and St. Louis.

urban service according to tax and non-tax support. Almost 95 per cent of the rural population receives no service from public libraries. On the other hand, more than 95 per cent of the urban population is served. Tax supported libraries occupy the major service role by providing reading matter for more than 46 per cent of the state population. Less than 6 per cent is served by those which are non-tax-supported although these considerably outnumber those with tax support. Only about 1½ per cent of the rural population (26,067 out of 1,770,248 persons) is served by tax supported institutions. Thus, of the rural population that is served (98,187 persons, which is less than 6 per cent of the total rural population), almost 75 per cent must rely upon non-tax-supported libraries for what service they receive. Only about 7 per cent of the urban division that is served obtains this service from non-tax-supported sources.<sup>36</sup>

The foregoing portrays a rather unfavorable picture of rural Missouri as far as library resources are concerned. Figure 3 presents graphically the contrast between rural and urban people, with and without library facilities. It must be noted in this

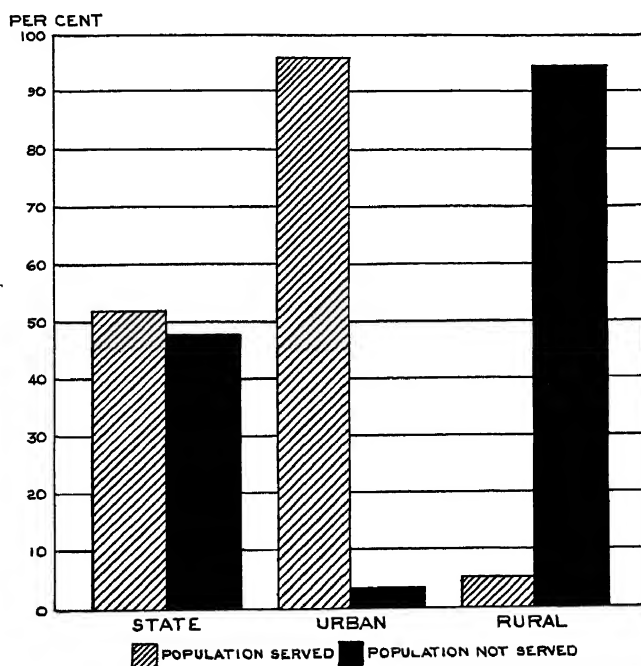


Fig. 3.—Percentage of People With and Without Public Library Facilities, 1935

<sup>36</sup>A table containing all places having libraries and giving population data by counties is included in Appendix, pp. 82-94.

instance that we are, in fact, dealing with approximate numbers of persons being served. There are, of course, cases where rural people are permitted to borrow books from the "town library," and this will be considered in a part of the study to follow. Some rural residents obtain books by mail from the Missouri Library Commission. The Extension Division of the State University may provide additional service, while the Agricultural Experiment Station places timely supplementary reading materials at the disposal of rural families. There may be books in the home and perhaps neighbors have books that may be borrowed. Some churches, clubs etc., may have some facilities. The problem remains, however, one of public library service. It is face to face contact with good books and a good librarian that makes adequate library service.<sup>37</sup> In this consideration it should be borne in mind that those who received services from other sources are not included in the total served. On the other hand, as an off-set to possible bias in the number of persons not served, is the factor of people counted as served even though this service is conspicuously inadequate. Finally, in consideration of the actual number of people who are served, the principal measure of successful service may be that which is determined by refining the population to include only the number of "borrowers". This will be considered later along with circulation.

When the state percentages of people without library service are arranged according to magnitude from lowest to highest, Missouri ranks twenty-seventh with 48 per cent.<sup>38</sup> Two of the smallest states (in area) and the District of Columbia rank first with none who are not served.<sup>39</sup> Arkansas and West Virginia rank last with 85 and 88 per cent, respectively, of their population being without library facilities.

Comparison of Missouri with her adjoining states in this matter is shown by Figure 4. This state ranks second only to Illinois in the per cent of people served when compared with all adjoining states.<sup>40</sup> Missouri, with 52 per cent of its population served, is not as well provided for as is the United States as a whole, with 63 per cent. The Missouri percentage exceeds by only 2 per cent the 50 per cent of Nebraska which, in turn, exceeds the Iowa percentage by only 2 per cent. Thus, from a total population viewpoint Missouri is below "average" for the United States as a whole but ranks slightly above "average" among its surrounding states in the percentage of people served.

<sup>37</sup>Library Extension, *op. cit.*, p. 29.

<sup>38</sup>Missouri ranks after 25 states and the District of Columbia.

<sup>39</sup>These states are Delaware and Massachusetts.

<sup>40</sup>Data from other states for this and other comparisons of people with and without library facilities here presented was taken from "Contrasts in Library Service", *op. cit.* Missouri data are original data obtained in the course of this study. Here, these latter data differ by only 2.0 per cent from figures listed in the reference quoted. (Missouri was listed with 50.0 per cent not served.)

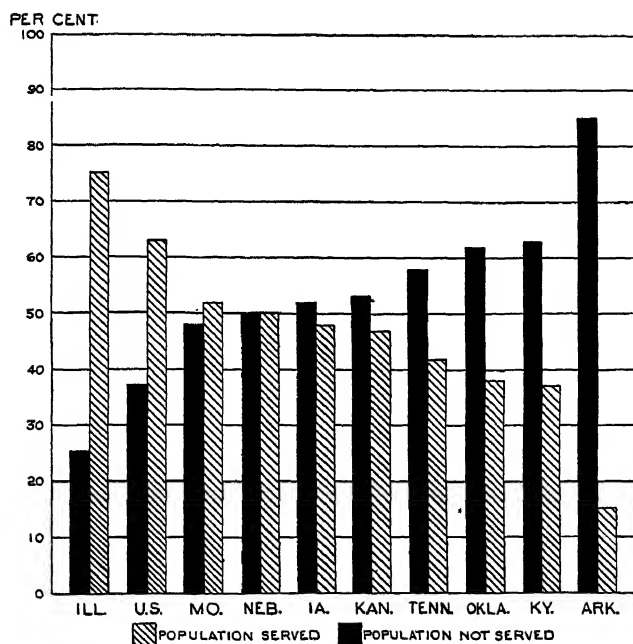


Fig. 4.—Percentage of People With and Without Public Library Facilities in Missouri, Adjoining States and the United States, 1935

The percentage of rural and urban population without facilities for Missouri and for adjoining states is shown in Table 3. Except in Arkansas a very large portion of each state's urban population is served. Nebraska ranks first among these states with all of its urban population of nearly 500,000 provided with public library service. Missouri ranks fifth in this respect with all but 3.7 per cent of its urban population served. It should be noted that Missouri and particularly Illinois have urban populations that greatly outnumber this enumeration in these other states. The reason for this, obviously, is the fact that three of the largest cities in

TABLE 3.—RURAL AND URBAN PEOPLE NOT SERVED BY PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN MISSOURI AND ADJOINING STATES, 1935

State	Rural			Urban		
	Rural population	Population not served	% not served	Urban population	Population not served	% not served
Arkansas-----	1,471,604	1,428,569	97.08	382,878	144,252	37.68
Illinois-----	1,994,927	1,855,270	93.00	5,635,727	86,944	1.54
Iowa-----	1,491,647	1,285,340	86.17	979,292	6,931	0.71
Kansas-----	1,151,165	987,434	85.78	729,834	8,753	1.20
Kentucky-----	1,815,163	1,519,637	83.70	799,026	117,475	14.70
Missouri-----	1,770,248	1,672,061	94.45	1,859,119	68,836	3.70
Nebraska-----	891,856	693,831	77.80	486,107	0	0.00
Oklahoma-----	1,374,339	1,522,675	96.72	821,681	59,684	7.26
Tennessee-----	1,720,018	1,431,139	80.84	896,538	99,020	11.04
Total-----	13,881,387	12,395,956	89.30	12,590,202	591,895	4.70



the United States are included. Thus the population of Kansas City and St. Louis in Missouri, served by tax supported public library systems conspicuously lend bias to the percentage of the total population in this state that have library facilities. The same is true of Chicago in Illinois. This consideration should be borne in mind when the ranking of states, indicated above, is dealt with. Away from the most urban counties (Jackson and St. Louis) there are only five incorporated places having populations of 2,500 or more that do not have a public library.<sup>41</sup> There is one unincorporated place of 4,000 population that now has no facilities.<sup>42</sup>

Considering the rural population in these states, it is found that only Arkansas and Oklahoma have a lower percentage of the rural population served than Missouri's 5½ per cent.<sup>43</sup> Nebraska again leads with approximately 22 per cent. Illinois, like Missouri, has a very low percentage of its rural inhabitants served (7 per cent). Figure 5 shows the rural population served and not served in Missouri and adjoining states. The relatively large percentage

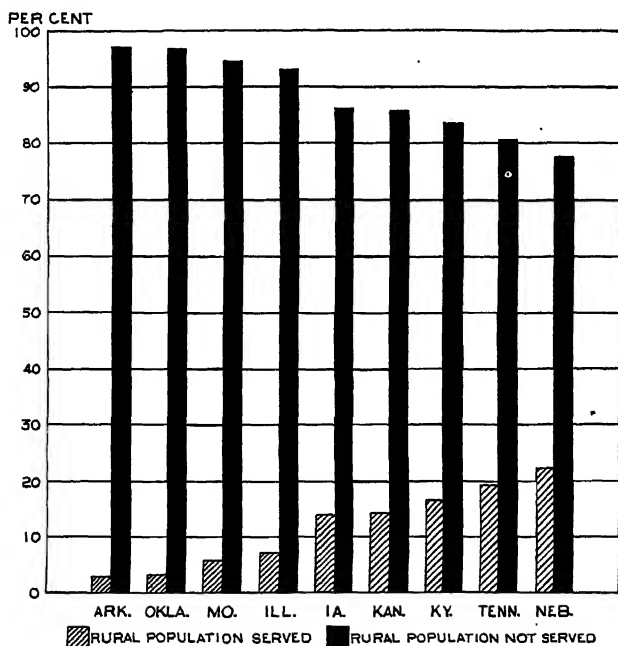


Fig. 5.—Percentage of Rural People With and Without Public Library Facilities in Missouri and Adjoining States, 1935

<sup>41</sup>These places and their populations are: De Soto (5,069) in Jefferson County; Marshall (8,103) in Saline County; Perryville (2,964) in Perry County; West Plains (3,335) in Howell County; and Crystal City (3,057) in Jefferson County.

<sup>42</sup>Desloge in St. Francois County.

<sup>43</sup>There are 30 places of 1,000-2,500 population in Missouri that have no public library.

that is served in Tennessee is perhaps accounted for by the fact that there are four county libraries that receive \$1,000 or more in maintenance revenue annually. Kentucky and Kansas each have three libraries of this type, while Iowa and Illinois have one each. Missouri and Oklahoma have none, and Arkansas has one. By way of contrast, California has 46 county libraries which provide service for over 90 per cent of the rural population of that state.<sup>44</sup>

**Hours of Public Library Service.**—In a year's time public libraries in Missouri are open something like 175,000 hours.<sup>45</sup> However, when viewed in average terms libraries are open about 27 hours per week (Table 4), with a median of 23 hours. Tax

TABLE 4.—NUMBER OF HOURS PUBLIC LIBRARIES ARE OPEN PER WEEK

Library Classification	Total hours per week	Number of libraries	Average number of hours per week	Median number of hours per week	Range of hours per week
Tax Supported ---	2,199.5	50	43.99	39	5-76
Non Tax-----	1,178.5	75	15.71	9	1-72
All Libraries---	3,378.0	125	27.02	23	1-76

supported libraries average 44 hours with a median of 39, while the non-tax-supported average slightly more than 15 hours per week with a median of 9. In the case of the non-tax-supported the average is increased by the presence of a few endowed or municipally aided institutions. Excluding one extreme observation (72 hours service per week) the average falls to about 14½ hours. Approximately 50 per cent of the tax supported ones are open between 28 and 60 hours per week, with about this same percentage of non-tax-supported institutions serving the people between 5 and 26 hours. Hours of service per week range from 1 to 76. The medians are more descriptive in this case than the averages, especially for the non-tax-supported classification. Perhaps the most significant fact is that persons served by non-tax-supported institutions can spend only about an average of 1½ hours a day at the library. Typically, however, these are open one or two days a week for four or five hours at a time. On the other hand, the tax supported may be visited at any time during a 6- to 8-hour period on week days and some of them are open a part of Sunday. The 50 tax supported ones account for 65 per cent of the total number of hours served every week. The remaining 35 per cent of the hours are served by the 75 non-tax-supported libraries.

<sup>44</sup>American Library Association, mimeographed report, *Libraries Receiving County Appropriations For County Public Library Service*, 1935.

<sup>45</sup>This estimate was made from the reports of 125 libraries not including Kansas City and St. Louis. No data were received from 5 non-tax-supported libraries and three more were excluded since they were housed in local stores.

**Number of Volumes.**—Recent public library statistics from the American Library Association show a total of well over 100,000,000 volumes in the United States.<sup>46</sup> In Missouri, the present study has disclosed a total of 2,193,965 volumes.<sup>47</sup> More than 90 per cent of these are found in tax supported libraries. Moreover, almost 93 per cent are found in urban areas, with the remaining 7 per cent in rural communities. The distribution of public library volumes in this state is further clarified by Table 5. This table shows a classification of libraries according to the size of the place

TABLE 5.—NUMBER OF VOLUMES IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO POPULATION, 1935

Population Classification	Library Classification								
	Tax Support			Non Tax			All Libraries		
	No. of libraries	No. of volumes	Per cent of total volumes	No. of libraries	No. of volumes	Per cent of total volumes	No. of libraries	No. of volumes	Per cent of total volumes
Rural:									
Less than 500	0			6	2,090	1.17	6	2,090	0.10
500- 999	0			17	14,319	7.98	17	14,319	0.65
1,000- 1,499	4	14,057	0.69	13	23,277	12.98	17	37,334	1.70
1,500- 2,499	11	60,755	3.02	22	43,526	24.27	33	104,281	4.75
Subtotal-Rural	15	74,812	3.71	58	83,212	46.40	73	158,024	7.20
Urban:									
2,500- 4,999	13	71,459	3.55	16	50,853	28.36	29	122,312	5.58
5,000- 9,999	10	112,668	5.59	8	40,775	22.73	18	153,443	6.99
10,000-24,999	9	144,270	7.16	1	4,500	2.51	10	148,770	6.78
25,000 and over	5	1,611,416	79.99	0			5	1,611,416	73.45
Subtotal-Urban	37	1,939,813	96.29	25	96,128	53.60	62	2,035,941	92.80
Total	52	2,014,625	100.00	83	179,340	100.00	135	2,193,965	100.00

in which they are located. The number of volumes is then shown with the resultant percentage of total for tax supported, non-tax-supported and all libraries. Only 3.71 per cent of the volumes reported from tax supported institutions are in the rural population division and slightly less than half the volumes in non-tax-supported libraries are found here. Within the rural division considerably the largest percentage (4.75 per cent) of volumes is found in places having 1,500-2,499 population and close to 60 per cent of these volumes are in tax supported libraries. Perhaps the most significant fact here is that almost three-fourths of the total number of volumes in the state are found in the five principal cities, each having a population greater than 25,000. These cities account for almost 40 per cent of the state population. When the number of volumes in these cities is excluded, an impressive total of over two million volumes for the state falls to the less conspicuous proportion of fewer than 600,000.

For the United States as a whole there is less than one volume per capita available in public libraries. Recent data show

<sup>46</sup>*Contrasts in Library Service, op. cit.* (The exact total was 100,470,215.)

<sup>47</sup>These and other data on total volumes in Missouri include Kansas City and St. Louis.

0.82 volumes per capita.<sup>48</sup> Missouri has 0.60 volumes, which is well below the per capita for the nation. Moreover, if the public library systems in Kansas City and St. Louis are omitted, the state per capita dwindles to slightly more than 0.34 volumes. That is to say there is approximately one-third of one book per person available in the public libraries of Missouri for "out-state" residents.

In relation to other states, Missouri ranks twenty-eighth in volumes per capita. This rank follows that of 26 other states and the District of Columbia. Figure 6 is a graphic description of the comparison of per capita volumes for Missouri, her adjoining

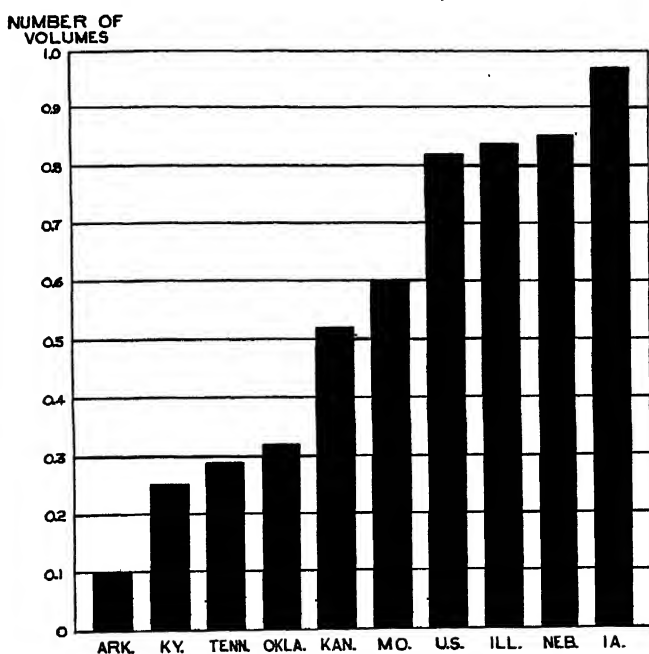


Fig. 6.—Public Library Volumes Per Capita in Missouri, Adjoining States and the United States, 1935

states, and the United States.<sup>49</sup> This state ranks fourth among the adjoining states, which are headed by Iowa, whose public libraries provide nearly one volume per capita (0.97 volumes). Nebraska ranks second with 0.85 volumes, while the 0.84 volumes in Illinois are slightly in excess of the 0.82 volumes per capita for the United States. The largest number per capita is found in the New England States, where the New England Town is the unit of

<sup>48</sup>*Contrasts in Library Service, op. cit.*

<sup>49</sup>*Ibid.*

support and service outside the large cities.<sup>50</sup> New Hampshire has the greatest number per capita, with 3.57 volumes, while Arkansas and Mississippi rank last with no more than 0.10 volumes per capita.

Distribution of volumes over the population of counties in which the several libraries are located shows a per capita of 1.33 in Buchanan county, the largest for a county in this state. The lowest per capita is in New Madrid county, which has 0.02 volumes per person.

Only three of the 115 counties have as much as one or more volumes per capita. These are: Buchanan with 1.33 volumes, Jackson with 1.21, and Jasper with 1.15. St. Louis city county has 0.99 which is almost one volume per person. These relatively large county per capita computations are reflections of the urban facilities within these counties. Buchanan and Jackson counties include respectively St. Joseph and Kansas City, while Jasper county, containing more tax supported libraries (three) than any other county, contains Joplin, Carthage, and Webb City. Figure 7 shows in addition to the three counties having one or more volumes per capita, 18 counties with per capitās of one-half to one volume. Less than one-half volume per person is found in 66 counties, and the remaining 28 have no libraries. The largest number of volumes per capita for any one place in the state is in Hamilton, Caldwell county, which has 9,255 volumes for a population of 1,572. This per capita of 5.89 volumes is in striking comparison with that of the low of 0.07 volumes reported from Carrollton, Carroll county, with 300 volumes and a population of 4,000.<sup>51</sup>

The trend in the number of volumes has been consistently upward since 1925, but the rate of increase has been retarded in the last three years. In order to obtain some indication of this trend, data from 18 tax supported libraries were used. These were selected primarily on the basis of the completeness of data for the years beginning with 1925. The newest of these had been established as long as three years previous to the starting point of the trend data. There were 38 tax supported libraries in Missouri in 1925, thus the selected libraries represent almost one-half the tax supported institutions at that time. They are well representative of areas of the state in which tax support is found.

These selected libraries and the number of volumes by years are given in Table 6. In 1935 the total number of volumes for all of them was almost 40 per cent greater than the total in 1925. Every year shows an increase in the number of volumes. The

<sup>50</sup>Library Extension, *op. cit.*, p. 41. The New England Town (as distinguished from use of the word "town" in Missouri) is a unit of local government corresponding roughly to the township in Missouri.

<sup>51</sup>Per capita computations for all places having libraries are shown in Appendix, pp. 82-94.

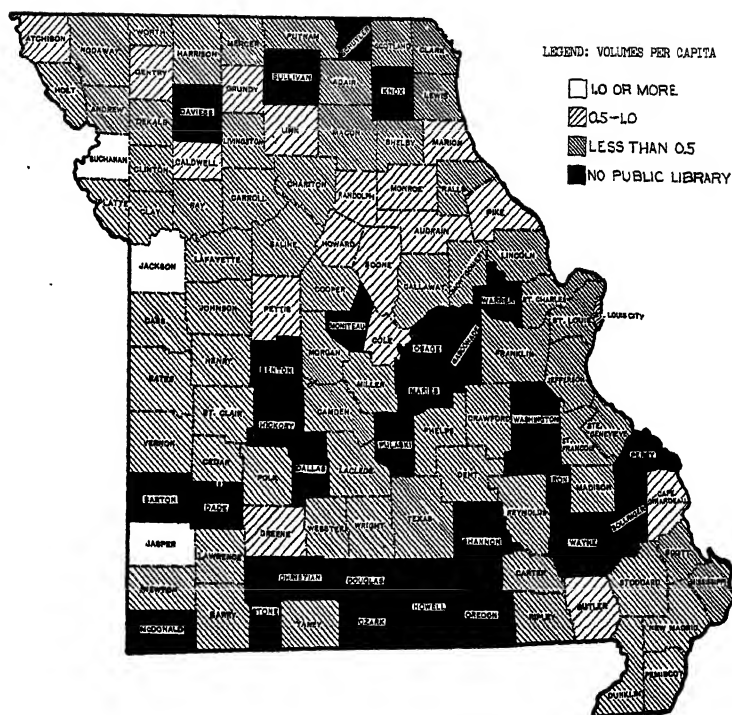


Fig. 7.—Number of Public Library Volumes Per Capita, by Counties, 1935.

TABLE 6.—NUMBER OF VOLUMES BY YEARS IN 18 TAX SUPPORTED PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Place	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935
Brookfield.....	4,552	5,205	5,898	6,447	7,032	7,469	8,460	9,363	9,961	10,673	11,228
Cape Girardeau.....	6,849	7,590	8,535	10,020	10,705	11,265	12,060	12,921	13,414	13,800	15,424
Columbia.....	6,688	7,598	8,202	9,056	9,235	9,627	10,273	10,668	11,240	12,192	13,392
Excelsior Springs.....	5,377	5,659	5,386	5,389	5,712	5,866	5,833	6,603	6,512	6,696	6,901
Fulton.....	5,565	5,923	6,256	6,653	6,918	7,301	7,659	8,080	8,515	8,843	9,659
Hamilton.....	5,878	6,299	6,890	7,073	7,434	7,928	8,513	8,941	9,121	9,170	9,255
Joplin.....	48,064	49,891	51,808	52,683	53,625	54,599	55,229	55,722	55,275	57,593	52,219
Louisiana.....	5,899	6,130	6,077	6,148	6,156	7,744	7,824	7,885	7,928	7,985	7,992
Macon.....	11,823	12,476	12,851	13,225	13,626	14,076	14,601	14,976	9,201	9,451	9,751
Marceline*.....	4,349	4,652	4,932	5,014	5,570	5,829	5,954	6,367	6,773	7,139	7,558
Marshfield.....	2,113	2,213	2,340	2,458	2,825	3,030	3,148	3,191	3,530	3,680	3,795
Moberly.....	9,514	9,891	9,947	11,305	11,471	11,668	12,203	12,934	13,235	13,491	13,975
Nevada.....	4,176	4,809	5,211	5,578	6,029	6,109	6,284	6,434	6,465	6,610	6,700
St. Joseph.....	102,605	108,497	111,358	113,494	119,292	123,995	127,893	131,208	132,853	131,379	131,059
Sedalia.....	24,241	24,238	24,374	25,615	26,556	26,243	26,255	26,818	26,500	27,387	27,660
Shelbina.....	2,692	2,829	3,086	3,397	3,560	3,826	4,123	4,460	4,865	5,098	5,786
Springfield.....	30,178	31,574	34,335	36,396	38,751	41,433	43,449	47,131	49,660	51,575	53,119
Webb City.....	6,161	6,463	6,756	6,838	6,871	6,800	7,205	7,754	8,081	8,165	8,376
All Places.....	286,724	301,937	314,242	326,789	341,368	354,808	366,966	381,456	383,129	390,927	400,849
Per cent increase over preceding year....		5.31	4.08	3.99	4.46	3.94	3.43	3.95	0.44	2.04	2.54
Total omitting Macon**.....	274,901	289,461	301,391	313,564	327,742	340,732	352,365	366,480	373,928	381,476	391,098
Per cent increase over preceding year....		5.30	4.12	4.04	4.52	3.96	3.41	4.01	2.03	2.02	2.52
Total omitting Macon and three largest cities***.....	94,054	99,499	103,890	110,991	116,074	120,705	125,794	132,419	136,140	140,929	147,701
Per cent increase over preceding year....		5.79	4.41	6.84	4.58	3.99	4.22	5.27	2.81	3.52	4.81

\*This library is now supported by city water and light funds, it was tax supported up to June, 1934.

\*\*The number of volumes at Macon declined abruptly in 1933.

\*\*\*The three largest libraries omitted are: St. Joseph, Joplin and Springfield.

percentage increase was greater in 1926 than in any of the other years, while 1933 shows the lowest percentage increase. The range of these percentages is from less than one-half of one per cent in the latter year to more than five per cent in 1926. One library reported a sharp decline in the number of volumes for 1933 and for this reason the library was omitted. With this one omitted the total for the 17 remaining libraries was approximately 42 per cent greater in 1935 than in 1925. The percentage increase in 1933 was enhanced by this change to two per cent over the one-half of one per cent found before. The other percentages remained about the same as they were with this library included. As a further measure the three largest cities were also omitted in addition to the previous omission. As a result, the remaining 14 libraries show 57 per cent more volumes in 1935 than in 1925, and the percentage increase in each year is larger. The increase during the last three years was particularly so.

Additions to the number of volumes are made by donations and by purchases. These additions need not, and quite often do not, augment the total number of volumes. They may be replacements, a very important item in library service and, if all necessary replacements are made, an important item in library budgets. During the last decade the number of volumes added per year has, in general, remained relatively stable for most tax supported libraries up to 1933. Data from 20 of the tax supported libraries show that the total number of volumes added was 30 per cent less in 1933 than it was in 1925. This of course may be a reflection of the depression resulting in less revenue from tax receipts. During this period donated volumes have made up from 15 to 20 per cent of the volumes added annually. Those remaining have been purchased.

In Missouri, in adjoining states, and in the United States, the increase in the number of volumes since 1925 has more than kept pace relatively with the increase in population. Figure 8 shows that in each of these, the number of volumes per capita is greater in 1935 than it was in 1925.<sup>52</sup> Missouri's present rank of fourth among the adjoining states is the same as it was ten years ago. Iowa, which now leads these states in the number of volumes per capita, also ranked first in 1925. The present ranking of Nebraska and Illinois was reversed a decade ago, and while they now have a greater number of volumes per capita than is found in the United States as a whole, both had less than this in 1925.

There is one other factor to be considered here in connection with the number of volumes in public libraries. That is rental collections. From data received during this study it was found

<sup>52</sup>Data for 1925 taken from Library Extension, *op. cit.*

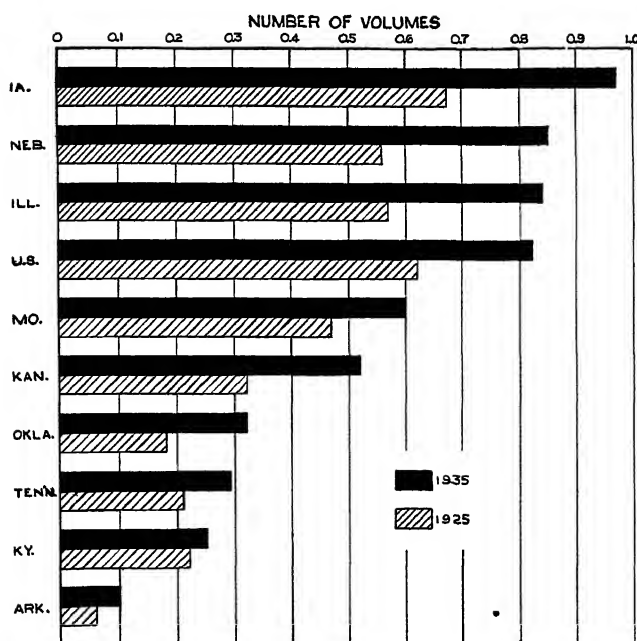


Fig. 8.—Number of Public Library Volumes Per Capita in Missouri, Adjoining States and the United States, 1925 and 1935

that around 60 per cent of the public libraries in this state have small collections of books for rental in addition to the "free volumes." This percentage is about the same for both tax and non-tax-supported institutions. The size of these collections, as shown in Table 7, averages 52 volumes for all libraries. The average rental fee is 9 cents, being slightly higher in tax supported institutions. All reports received for either the number of books or rental fees were used in computation of the averages. Most of these rental collections are composed of recently published books. In

TABLE 7.—RENTAL VOLUMES IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES OF MISSOURI, 1935

Library Classification	Rental Collection			Books for Rental			Rental Fees	
	Yes	No	Per cent yes	No. of libraries	No. of volumes	Average number	No. of libraries	Average fee per week
Tax Supported.....	29	19	60.42	27	1,689	62.56	29	\$0.097
N, Tax.....	50	29	63.29	34	1,504	44.24	47	0.087
All Libraries*.....	79	48	62.20	61	3,193	52.34	76	0.091

\*Includes all from which data were received.



many cases they remain at rental disposal only until "they pay for themselves". The books are then catalogued and subsequently become available for free circulation.

**Circulation.**—Recent data show an annual circulation for over 6,000 public libraries in the United States that approaches one-half billion volumes.<sup>53</sup> In this state during 1934 there were 11,558,048 volumes circulated as revealed by the present study.<sup>54</sup> The distribution of this circulation follows the distribution of volumes. Circulation, however, is somewhat more extensive in urban areas than is indicated by the volumes that make circulation possible. That is, while about 93 per cent of the volumes are distributed in urban areas, more than 96 per cent of the circulation is found in these places. Nearly 80 per cent of the total circulation in 1934 was in the state's five largest cities which were mentioned above in consideration of the number of volumes. If the circulation in these places is excluded, there were less than 2½ million volumes circulated last year.

Since circulation during the last four years has been somewhat abnormal, as will be shown below, an average circulation was computed for each library. These averages were obtained from as many of the last ten annual reports as possible. Nearly all of the tax supported libraries that have been established long enough provided data for 7 to 10 of these years. Inasmuch as most of the total volumes circulated are from these libraries, the averages are generally typical. A fairly large number of libraries was recently established and some did not provide sufficient data. The averages for such institutions are therefore not generally typical. The several averages were totaled to provide a circulation for comparison with that of 1934. This total was more than three million less than the circulation last year. These data are shown for tax supported and non-tax-supported libraries, classified, according to population, in Table 8 and for all libraries classified by counties in the Appendix.<sup>55</sup> The primary objective behind the presentation of such average circulation is to provide what is thought to be more typical circulation data than is afforded by using only the data for 1934. The percentages, of circulation classified by population, are not appreciably different whether the average circulation or that of last year is considered. There is, however, a tendency shown for a larger percentage to be found in the largest cities last year than is found for the average circulation. Thus almost 80 per cent of the total circulation last year was in the five largest cities, while only slightly more than 77 per cent of the average circulation was found in these places.

<sup>53</sup>Contrasts in Library Service, *op. cit.* (The exact total was 449,998,845.)

<sup>54</sup>This total does not include circulation for libraries established less than one year, as of January, 1935. Only one major library (Warrensburg) failed to provide circulation data.

<sup>55</sup>pp. 82-94.



Of all circulation about 4 per cent is found in the rural area. In 1934 approximately 400,000 volumes were circulated, which amounted to less than  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent of the total in this state. The sum of the average circulations is about 50,000 volumes smaller than the rural total in 1934 but the resultant percentage is slightly more than 4 per cent. Over 65 per cent of the rural circulation in 1934 was fostered by tax supported libraries, which numbered only 12 out of 51 rural institutions.

In 1934 there was a circulation of nearly  $3\frac{1}{2}$  volumes per capita in Missouri.<sup>56</sup> This was considerably larger than the 1.63 volumes per person in 1925. It should be noted, however, that population data used here were obtained from the United States Census of 1930. The per capita for 1934 is therefore slightly higher than it would be if a more recent population figure were used.<sup>57</sup> However, the 1920 census was drawn upon by the American Library Association for its per capita computations for 1925, thus the per capitās for the different years are derived with similar margins of error. For purposes here, particularly that of indicating general tendencies, these computations are sufficiently accurate. The per capita circulation used for this state is considerably larger than the 2.76 volumes recorded recently by the American Library Association. On the assumption that this study has disclosed facilities about which little, if any, information has previously been available, computations based on these more recent data for Missouri are used in all instances.<sup>58</sup>

Figure 9 shows the number of volumes circulated per person in both 1925 and 1934 for Missouri, adjoining states, and the United States. Each of these divisions shows one characteristic that is outstanding. That is, all show greater per capita circulations in 1934, and practically all show conspicuously greater per capitās than were found in 1925. Various reasons may be given in explanation of what appears to be a very decided increase in per capita circulation. Library service has been extended in Missouri and in the United States during the last ten years as shown by a greater number of libraries; particularly do county libraries in other states enhance the service rendered.<sup>59</sup> This consideration undoubtedly contributes to larger circulation per capita if the extension of service is greater than the increase in population. However, not belittling the worthy efforts of library extension in this state, a very

<sup>56</sup>Per capita circulation is, however, only about 1.3 volumes if Kansas City and St. Louis are excluded.

<sup>57</sup>Assuming the same rate of increase in population as that from 1920-1930 for this state, an adjusted total population gives a per capita circulation of 3.3 volumes.

<sup>58</sup>Data for 1925 were taken from Library Extension, op cit. Data for other states for 1934 were taken from Contrasts in Library Service, op. cit.

<sup>59</sup>California, with 46 county library systems, ranks first in per capita circulation with 9.14 volumes.

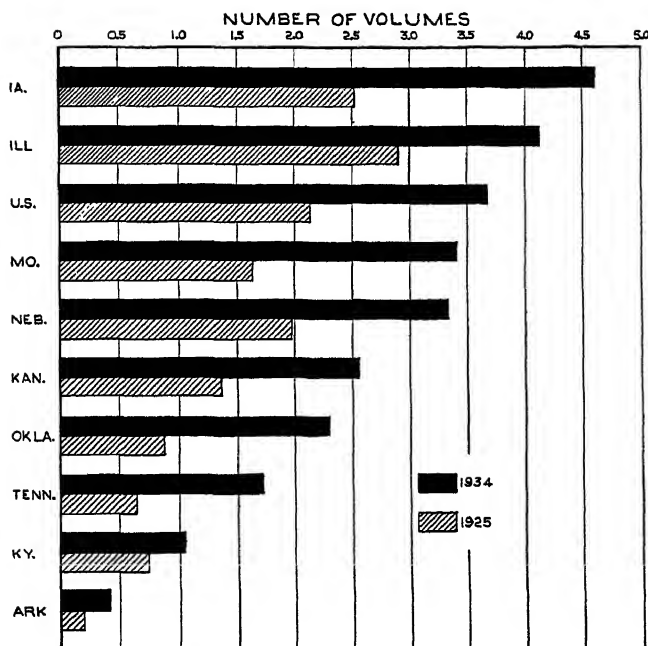


Fig. 9.—Public Library Circulation Per Capita in Missouri, Adjoining States and the United States, 1925 and 1934

large portion of the increased per capita circulation in Missouri for 1934 was due in no small measure to the depression.

In 1934 Missouri and adjoining states are again headed by Iowa in circulation per capita. Both the Iowa and Illinois per capitæ are larger than that for the United States. Missouri ranks twenty-fifth among the states, following 23 states and the District of Columbia. This state ranks third among the adjoining states but its per capita circulation is below that for the United States. A decade ago the states bordering on Missouri were led by Illinois, with Iowa second. Mississippi and Arkansas have the lowest circulations per person in the United States, with 0.36 and 0.39 volumes, respectively.

The total average circulation per capita for Missouri is 2.47 volumes. This per capita seems to be a more typical value representing recent circulation. It should be recalled that tax supported libraries had the largest part of the circulation. Most of these also provided data for all years since 1925. The 1930 census, then, comes midway in the ten-year period for which the averages of the several circulations are representative. It is believed that the per capita thus derived from a total of the individual library



TABLE 9.—BOOK CIRCULATION BY YEARS FOR 18 TAX SUPPORTED PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Place	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934
Brookfield.....	23,673	23,904	26,608	28,350	33,627	30,027	35,935	49,345	45,502	40,390
Cape Girardeau ..	56,822	58,221	64,160	67,325	64,065	60,488	70,043	88,251	80,865	77,502
Columbia.....	30,857	34,564	38,876	45,022	52,466	55,533	57,018	58,951	57,041	71,928
Excelsior Springs ..	22,520	22,072	23,301	24,366	21,850	24,148	30,191	26,661	28,150	28,732
Fulton.....	20,760	22,054	22,473	22,196	22,626	23,236	23,152	24,972	24,138	26,229
Hamilton.....	15,701	13,523	12,773	15,461	15,926	16,301	19,523	21,001	19,573	16,906
Joplin.....	197,636	210,544	219,260	201,032	194,436	207,221	236,868	270,821	218,441	226,978
Louisiana.....	11,956	13,209	13,006	12,337	14,252	12,828	14,190	13,140	14,963	16,872
Macon.....	18,498	20,514	21,690	37,370	46,253	43,832	47,223	57,549	74,718	67,171
Marceline*	22,584	25,749	24,556	28,521	29,863	21,505	31,466	38,132	31,801	32,433
Marshfield.....	17,248	17,738	18,893	18,902	18,998	19,021	19,201	19,348	19,403	19,437
Moberly.....	44,173	45,049	48,016	53,891	53,989	59,591	66,215	77,639	94,396	92,554
Nevada.....	19,400	26,369	28,742	27,418	25,880	27,530	27,601	30,137	29,454	29,003
St. Joseph.....	453,008	525,041	510,707	524,097	555,473	547,293	581,948	634,342	641,145	527,834
Sedalia.....	98,100	98,299	93,018	106,093	119,879	120,947	123,786	151,273	146,480	146,558
Shelbina.....	17,305	21,801	25,515	25,760	26,308	26,723	31,983	37,487	41,392	47,570
Springfield.....	137,465	142,000	151,024	170,377	185,866	192,014	220,024	271,614	318,048	324,139
Webb City.....	21,459	22,584	19,710	20,034	22,630	25,554	30,082	31,988	28,022	21,979
All Places.....	1,229,165	1,343,235	1,362,328	1,428,552	1,504,387	1,513,792	1,666,449	1,902,651	1,913,532	1,814,215
Per cent increase over preceding year.....		9.28	1.42	4.86	5.31	0.63	10.08	14.17	0.57	-5.19
Total omitting Marceline**	1,206,581	1,317,486	1,337,772	1,400,031	1,474,524	1,492,287	1,634,983	1,864,519	1,881,731	1,781,782
Per cent increase over preceding year.....		9.19	1.54	4.65	5.32	1.20	9.56	14.04	0.92	-5.31
Total omitting Marceline and three largest cities***	418,472	439,901	456,781	504,525	538,749	545,759	596,143	687,742	704,097	702,831
Per cent increase over preceding year.....		5.14	3.84	10.45	6.78	1.30	9.23	15.37	2.38	-0.18

\*This library is now supported by city water and light funds, it was tax supported up to June, 1934.

\*\*The library at Marceline was closed six weeks in 1930 and again for four weeks in 1933, thus the circulation in those years was abnormal.

\*\*\*The three largest cities omitted are: St. Joseph, Joplin and Springfield.

Table 9. The rate of increase has been irregular, but in each year from 1925 to 1934 there has been a greater total circulation for these libraries than was found in the preceding year. This observation is true until 1934, in which a decline was evidenced. These 18 libraries had a total circulation in 1934 which was some 48 per cent greater than the total in 1925, but the 1934 sum was over 5 per cent less than that in 1933 which was the "peak year." In the latter year circulation was nearly 56 per cent greater than in 1925. The greatest percentage increase for any one of the years was 14.17 per cent in 1932. The library at Marceline was closed six weeks in 1930 and again in 1933 for a period of four weeks. This library was then omitted, the circulations retotaled and the percentages recomputed. The same tendencies were found in the result, with the percentage increase for 1930 and 1933 being slightly larger. Likewise, the three largest cities were also excluded. This effect was generally the same except the decline in 1934 was much less than when these cities were included.<sup>61</sup>

Assuming these data to constitute a sufficient sample, circulation in this state has consistently shown an increase, year after

<sup>61</sup>Circulation was thus nearly 67.0 per cent greater in 1934 than in 1925.

year, until the last year in the past decade. It increased at a greater rate in 1931 and 1932 than in any other year since 1925. There followed a "leveling off" in 1933, with only a small rate of increase shown, while 1934 brought a decline in circulation. These data seem to lead to the possible conclusion that there was an increase in library circulation while the business cycle was in depression. These data do not, however, show that the new "high" in circulation is to be maintained. On the contrary, the tendency shown is that of decline for existing libraries unless circulation to come brings a reversal. The decline is not yet as apparent in smaller cities as it is in the larger ones, but the tendency is present. It is perhaps well to note that the considerations here apply to places that are equipped with public libraries. Those areas without facilities are not a part of this picture—they have yet to make a beginning.

TABLE 10.—MONTHS OF LARGEST AND SMALLEST CIRCULATION IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1934

Month	Largest Circulation									Smallest Circulation								
	Tax Support			Non Tax			All Libraries			Tax Support			Non Tax			All Libraries		
	No. of libraries	Per cent	Circulation	No. of libraries	Per cent	Circulation	No. of libraries	Per cent	Circulation	No. of libraries	Per cent	Circulation	No. of libraries	Per cent	Circulation	No. of libraries	Per cent	Circulation
January.....	19	48.7	125,939	16	43.3	24,483	35	46.1	150,422	0			1	2.7	15	1	1.3	15
February.....	1	2.6	8,522	1	2.7	335	2	2.6	8,857	2	5.1	8,792	1	2.7	440	3	3.9	9,232
March.....	6	15.4	56,254	6	16.2	12,183	12	15.8	68,437	1	2.6	1,812	3	8.1	685	4	5.3	2,497
April.....	1	2.6	8,222	2	7.7	1,065	2	2.6	9,287	3	7.7	8,655	3	8.1	1,547	6	7.9	10,202
May.....	1	2.6	2,151	0			1	1.3	2,151	9	23.1	33,187	10	27.1	18,872	19	25.0	52,057
June.....	0			1	2.7	284	1	1.3	284	4	10.2	27,950	1	2.7	595	5	6.8	28,542
July.....	2	5.1	10,375	2	5.4	1,009	4	5.3	11,384	6	15.4	16,300	5	13.5	2,079	11	14.5	18,379
August.....	2	5.1	14,950	1	2.7	556	3	3.9	15,506	2	5.1	2,905	4	10.8	3,247	6	7.9	6,152
September.....	0			1	2.7	1,199	1	1.3	1,199	9	23.1	59,630	5	13.5	4,351	14	18.5	63,981
October.....	2	5.1	25,565	2	5.4	742	4	5.3	26,307	2	5.1	2,273	1	2.7	245	3	3.9	2,518
November.....	3	7.7	9,975	4	10.8	13,059	7	9.2	23,034	0			2	5.4	117	2	2.6	117
December.....	2	5.1	2,454	2	5.4	3,705	4	5.3	6,159	1	2.6	9,724	1	2.7	668	2	2.6	10,392
Total*.....	39	100.0	264,407	37	100.0	58,620	76	100.0	323,027	39	100.0	171,228	37	100.0	32,861	76	100.0	204,089

\*Includes only the libraries from which sufficient data were received for both high and low months.

Within the "library year" circulation varies from month to month. Table 10 shows that during 1934 over 45 per cent of the libraries in Missouri had their largest circulation in January. These data were secured for 1934 from 39 tax supported libraries and from 37 that were not tax supported. The next most frequently reported month of greatest circulation was March, which has been listed by only about 16 per cent of the libraries. All months were given at least once and there seems to be little difference be-

tween tax supported and non-tax-supported libraries in this respect. There was less agreement, however, among all libraries in regard to the month of smallest circulation. The largest number reported May as the month in which the least books were circulated. Two other months, September and July, were given almost as frequently, and all months were reported at least once. The total largest circulation for all libraries was 58 per cent greater than the total found in months of smallest circulation. There were 10 libraries which listed January as the month of greatest circulation and also gave September as the low month. In this instance the total high circulation was 66 per cent greater than the lowest. Likewise, 9 libraries which reported greatest circulation in January also mentioned lowest circulations in May. Here the total high was 64 per cent above the lowest.

The significance of the foregoing is that problems in library service are created with this difference of something like 60 or 65 per cent in circulation between different months. Such an increase in circulation, especially if it comes abruptly and if library service was already extensive, might necessitate additions to the staff. Certainly a considerably greater task confronts the librarian. Many libraries have recognized these maximum and minimum periods in their planning. Thus records are brought up to date, books are rebound, and other important but time-consuming functions are completed during slack periods. Custom and various environmental factors go to determine the months of large and small circulation in most instances. Weather and the time of year seem to play a large part in determining the total circulation. It is also significant that some places, conditioned by resort or recreational environments, have greater circulations during the resort season. Such considerations as these may point the way toward an explanation of why months of greatest and least circulation vary rather widely from library to library.

No data on the number of borrowers were obtained by the schedule used in this study, but these data for tax supported libraries have been published annually by the Missouri Library Commission. The reports for the last ten years were used to obtain the number of borrowers for seventeen libraries.<sup>62</sup> These are the same ones that have previously been used to study trend, except for the omission of the Nevada Public Library, for which sufficient borrower data were not available.

For these libraries, the trend of the total number of borrowers has been irregular since 1925 but all "library years" except 1927 and 1930 have shown at least 1 per cent increase over the preceding year. The year 1929 shows the largest percentage increase (10.55

<sup>62</sup>Missouri Library Commission, *Annual Reports*, 1925-1934, inc.



per cent), but this was followed by a decline of over 3 per cent in 1930. Since this latter year the total number of borrowers has been greater each year, with an increase of 7 per cent in 1933. Then, unlike the downward trend in circulation, the total number of borrowers in these libraries increased by another 7 per cent in 1934. In this last year, the number exceeded the total in 1925 by 33 per cent. Thus, if these data are correct and representative, it appears that the number of borrowers definitely increased but these same borrowers read fewer books per borrower in 1934 than they did in 1933. Additional data pertaining to borrower circulation are shown in Table 11 for the libraries under consideration.

TABLE 11.—CIRCULATION PER BORROWER FOR 17 TAX SUPPORTED PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Place	Population (1930)	No. of borrowers 1934	Index (% of borrowers to pop.)	Circulation 1934	Circulation per borrower 1934	Average No. of borrowers	Average circulation	No. of years in averages	Average circulation per average No. of borrowers
Brookfield.....	6,428	3,325	51.73	40,390	12.15	2,616	33,736	10	12.90
Cape Girardeau.....	16,227	8,174	50.37	77,502	9.48	5,968	68,774	10	11.52
Columbia.....	14,967	6,689	44.69	71,928	10.75	5,015	50,226	10	10.02
Excelsior Springs.....	4,565	1,655	36.25	28,732	17.36	1,723	25,199	10	14.63
Fulton.....	6,105	9,320	152.66	26,229	2.81	3,843	23,184	10	6.03
Hamilton.....	1,572	3,000	190.84	16,906	5.64	2,490	16,669	10	6.69
Joplin.....	33,434	13,261	39.64	226,978	17.12	9,456	218,324	10	23.09
Louisiana.....	3,549	3,021	85.12	16,872	5.58	2,610	13,675	10	5.24
Macon.....	3,851	4,312	111.97	67,171	15.58	3,708	43,482	10	11.73
Marceline*.....	3,555	2,381	66.98	32,433	13.62	2,206	28,661	10	12.99
Marshfield.....	1,378	3,646	264.59	19,437	5.33	2,825	18,819	10	6.66
Moberly.....	13,772	4,458	32.37	92,554	20.76	3,878	63,551	10	16.39
St. Joseph.....	80,935	22,884	28.27	527,834	23.07	25,345	550,089	10	21.70
Sedalia.....	20,806	4,674	22.46	146,558	31.36	4,805	120,443	10	25.07
Shelbina.....	1,826	2,725	149.23	47,570	17.46	1,949	30,184	10	15.49
Springfield.....	57,527	19,280	33.51	324,139	16.81	15,436	211,257	10	13.69
Webb City.....	6,876	2,117	30.79	21,979	10.38	2,163	24,404	10	11.28
All Places.....	277,393	114,922	41.43	1,785,212	15.53	96,036	1,540,677	10	16.04

\*This library is now supported by city water and light funds; it was tax supported up to June, 1934.

In 1934 there were 15.53 volumes per borrower circulated. This was below the average for the last ten years, yet there were one-third more borrowers in 1934 than were found a decade ago. In 1925 books were circulated at the rate of approximately 14 per borrower, while the average for the ten-year period was 16.04 volumes. In the long run, under normal conditions, it appears that circulation per borrower has been around 14 or 15 volumes annually.<sup>63</sup> A reflection of abnormal circumstances seems reasonably apparent in these circulation data. The average for the last decade may have been bolstered with borrowing by those individuals who found books a compensation during the recent financial emergency. Volumes circulated per borrower amount to 16.5 in 1931, compared with 15.7 in 1930. The "high" was reached, abruptly, in 1932 with 18.6 volumes. Since then, per borrower circulation declined to 17.5 in 1933 and further to 15.5 volumes in 1934. The

<sup>63</sup>This is said in a general way to be applicable as an average. Individual libraries of course may depart rather widely from the limits of this approximation.

same tendencies are displayed when the three largest cities are omitted. The number of volumes per borrower, however, is not as great. With these cities excluded, the figure falls from 15.53 to 11.88 in 1934, while the average for ten years drops from 16.04 to 12.25.

Table 11 includes what has been named, as a matter of terminology, an index. This is simply the percentage or ratio of total borrowers to the population concerned.<sup>64</sup> It is not to be confused with the percentage of population that were borrowers, although such confusion would be more nearly correct in consideration of the largest cities. However, even in these larger places it is but roughly to be taken as such a measure. It will be readily noted that several of the computations exceed 100 per cent. Obviously this could not mean percentage of population since 100 per cent would be the total. Furthermore, it is obvious that certain age groups and other elements that compose the population would hardly be likely to borrow books.

The principal significance of this index is that it affords some means of distinguishing libraries whose service reaches beyond the incorporated limits within which they are located. It will be noted that the size of the index has much in common with the population of the place for which it was computed. Thus the two largest figures are found with the two smallest places. However, a relatively small index does not mean that no service is rendered outside city limits. On the contrary, it could be that service was rendered to farm and village homes in the surrounding area and that, relative to some places, the city population was less conscious of the availability of public library facilities. Where these indices are largest, surrounding rural areas are served. This is indicated by other pertinent material received during this study. It was found that Marshfield, which has the largest index of 264.59 among the libraries being considered, circulated almost one-half its total circulation in 1934 to persons living on farms. Likewise more than one-third of the total circulation in Hamilton which has the second largest index of 190.84 was extended to the farm population. The library at Hannibal, which was not included in the seventeen places under consideration, has made one of the few attempts in this state to provide county service. However, if the index is any measure, Hannibal, with Marion county, would have no more claim to county service from the standpoint of people served than would Marshfield or Hamilton. The index for Hannibal in 1934 was 34.72 while for Marion county, in which it is located, the index

<sup>64</sup>This measure has been called the ratio of borrowers to population in another study, cf. Brunner, E. deS., and Kolb, J. H., *Rural Social Trends*, McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1933, p. 206.

was 23.60. Less than 15 per cent of the total circulation in this library last year was recorded for persons living on farms. For Caldwell county, containing Hamilton, the index was 23.98 and for Webster county, which includes Marshfield, it was 22.58. This comparison is not intended to cast reflection on county library endeavor in Marion county. On the other hand, such attempts should be commended. The principal purpose in the comparison has been an attempt to show what some small localities are accomplishing in the way of library service with the facilities which exist.

A great deal of importance should not, however, be attached to the measure just indicated. It is at best only an approximation and where libraries keep complete records of the number of borrowers according to residence it is entirely unnecessary. Complete borrower data, used along with recent census data, will provide an accurate basis for study of library service that is extended beyond city limits. With as many rural people as there are in this state without library facilities, it would seem that many libraries would need to look no farther than their immediate environment to find fertile areas for library extension. That is, until provision can be made to service the rural population, existing libraries must expect to take over the responsibility as far as that is possible. This service might be incomplete, to be sure, and perhaps rural people in some instances do not readily seek books even though they are made available, yet, the availability of materials along with reasonable encouragement would increase the number of rural readers. Then, after sufficient interest is once created, rural areas may be conditioned for county or regional library planning. Some libraries offer definite encouragement to rural readers. Others permit rural borrowing but do not especially encourage it. Nothing should be concluded here that presupposes a contention that existing libraries should assimilate all rural areas under their service. It is simply intended to raise the question of how to go about the task of extending library service into areas that now have none.

Additional information concerning circulation was secured through answers to the question, How many books were circulated to persons living on farms in 1934? A record or an estimate was reported from 66 libraries. Some others reported "very few" books circulated to farmers, others reported "none", and those remaining made no report.

For all libraries reporting, over 13 per cent of all circulation went to persons living on farms. Rural libraries as shown in Table 12 circulated about 25 per cent of their volumes to farmers, while slightly over 10 per cent in urban institutions was so distributed. There was little difference between rural-tax and non-tax support-

TABLE 12.—PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL CIRCULATION GOING TO FARM HOMES IN 1934  
FROM 66 PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Library Classification	Number of Libraries	Total Circulation (1934)	Farm Circulation	
			Total	Pe cent
Rural:				
Tax Support.....	12	230,742	60,989	25.65
Non Tax.....	24	77,804	18,291	23.51
Subtotal-Rural.....	36	315,546	79,282	25.12
Urban:				
Tax Support.....	19	931,892	88,278	8.99
Non Tax.....	11	151,106	29,139	19.28
Subtotal-Urban.....	30	1,132,998	117,417	10.36
Rural and Urban:				
Tax Support.....	31	1,219,634	149,267	12.24
Non Tax.....	35	228,910	47,432	20.72
Total.....	66	1,448,544	196,699	13.58

ed libraries in the percentage of farm circulation, but urban ones differed rather widely in this respect. Urban non-tax-supported circulated about 21 per cent of their volumes to farmers while the tax supported libraries circulated almost 9 per cent. Too much significance should not be attached to these figures. They are, for the most part, estimates and are to be considered only as approximations. Furthermore, the status of farm circulation thus shown is not applicable in a general way to other libraries. These estimates should be looked upon only from the viewpoint of 66 libraries that did have and report farm circulation. However, one point is rather clearly determined by these data, and that is the fact that an appreciable number of libraries in this state do provide some service to persons residing on farms. The number of persons served in this manner is not great. Only those who reside in the immediate vicinity of existing public libraries are benefited and no material change in the percentage of rural people who are served would subsequently be made were these persons accurately accounted for and included.

In answer to the question—Is there any indication of an increase in farm circulations—replies, which are shown in Table 13, were received from 92 libraries. Of these, 75 per cent answered "yes" and the remaining 25 per cent "no". The 77 per cent "yes" from rural libraries was but a little larger than the 73 per cent urban which answered affirmatively. These yes and no replies may or may not be of sufficient consequence to warrant further consideration. Coming at the time they did, it seems inevitable that these answers could escape the bias that an all-time high in circulation would lend. This is said in view of the fact that these replies are mostly opinions or estimates not based on records. However, assuming that such opinions are approximately true, the principal indication shown seems to be that farm circulation increased along with total circulation.

**Newspapers and Periodicals.**—One of the many important and valuable services which may be provided by the public library is

TABLE 13.—NUMBER OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES INDICATING AN INCREASE IN FARM CIRCULATION,  
CLASSIFIED BY POPULATION AND SUPPORT, 1935

Is There Any Indication of an Increase in Farm Circulation?	Rural						Urban						Rural and Urban														
	Tax			Non Tax			All			Tax			Non Tax			All			Tax			Non Tax			All		
	No.	%		No.	%		No.	%		No.	%		No.	%		No.	%		No.	%		No.	%		No.	%	
Libraries answering yes-----	10	83.33	27	75.00	37	77.08	17	62.96	15	88.24	32	72.73	27	69.23	42	79.25	69	75.00									
Libraries answering no-----	2	16.67	9	25.00	11	22.92	10	37.04	2	11.76	12	27.27	12	30.77	11	20.75	23	25.00									
Total-----	12	100.00	36	100.00	48	100.00	27	100.00	17	100.00	44	100.00	39	100.00	53	100.00	92	100.00									

that of supplying its clientele with the "latest news" and a variety of periodic publications. In a library that has sufficient funds to make adequate subscription for this type reading matter, a wide variety of subject matter content is found. The local newspapers and from one to six or more good "outside papers" are made available. Periodicals are found that give weekly summaries of important national and international events. Others are provided which are made for the family, the wife, the daughter, or the son. Materials are made available which fit the varied interests of the many personality types which frequent the public library.

Qualitative considerations of library reading matter are not within the province of this study. However, to further determine what facilities are available some indication of those newspapers and periodicals found is included.

Most of the tax supported institutions have newspapers, but about two-thirds of the non-tax-supported libraries do not. Forty-seven libraries or 45 per cent of the 104 that provided newspaper and periodical information did not have newspapers. For the 57 that did provide news service there was an average of almost 5½ newspapers per library, as shown in Table 14. The average was

TABLE 14.—THE NUMBER OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES HAVING NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS, 1935

Library Classification	Newspapers					Periodicals				
	No. libraries not having	No. libraries having	No. of papers	Average*	Median*	No. libraries not having	No. libraries having	No. of periodicals	Average*	Median*
Rural										
Tax Support.....	3	9	33	3.67	4.00	0	12	301	25.08	21.00
Non Tax.....	31	8	19	2.38	2.00	13	26	192	7.38	6.00
Subtotal-Rural.....	34	17	52	3.06	3.00	13	38	493	12.97	9.50
Urban:										
Tax Support.....	5	28	220	7.86	7.50	1	31	2,030	65.48	51.00
Non Tax.....	8	12	38	3.17	2.00	4	13	186	14.31	10.00
Subtotal-Urban.....	13	40	258	6.45	6.00	5	44	2,216	50.36	38.50
All Libraries:										
Tax Support.....	8	37	253	6.84	6.00	1	43	2,331	54.21	41.00
Non Tax.....	39	20	57	2.85	2.00	17	39	378	9.69	7.00
Total.....	47	57	310	5.44	4.00	18	82	2,709	33.04	16.50

\*Computed for those libraries that have papers and periodicals, excluding those that do not.

3 papers for rural libraries and almost 6.50 for urban. Tax support identified itself in all divisions with a larger average per library than that shown by non-tax support. The medians for all classifications were slightly lower than the averages. There was a total of 310 newspapers reported, most of which are found in the tax supported.

In the total number of papers reported, 130 different ones were included. For the tax supported there were 104 different papers, while for the non-tax classification 39 were reported. Of these latter, 26 were not listed by tax supported institutions. This char-

acteristic is primarily due to the fact that local papers are nearly always provided where any provision is made. Only 11 of the 104 different papers found in tax supported libraries were published outside of this state. Quite a number of the papers are local weeklies. These constitute the only ones found in several of the libraries where no "daily" is provided. Only 14 papers were reported as often as three or more times. Papers published in the two largest cities of the state head the list.

Periodicals are found more frequently than newspapers. More than 80 per cent of the libraries from which data were received had such publications in service. There was an average of slightly more than 33 for the 82 libraries that reported these publications. An additional 18 had none, while no report was received from the remaining number. All but one of those having none were non-tax supported. The number in tax supported libraries averaged about 54 while the average was almost 9 for the others. Considerable difference was found in rural and urban divisions, with averages of about 13 and 50, respectively.

There were 246 different periodicals among the more than 2,700 that were reported. Tax supported libraries had 201 different publications while 126 were found in non-tax support. Of these latter periodicals, a total of 45 was found which were not listed by tax supported institutions. A half-dozen prominent publications

TABLE 15.—PERIODICALS REPORTED FIVE OR MORE TIMES IN PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1935

Rank	Name of Periodical	No. of times reported	Rank	Name of Periodical	No. of times reported
1	American Magazine.....	39	32	Christian Century.....	10
2	Good Housekeeping.....	38	32	Missouri Historical Review.....	10
3	National Geographic.....	35	32	Nature Magazine.....	10
4	Ladies Home Journal.....	32	35	Junior Home.....	9
5	American Boy.....	30	35	Missouri Magazine.....	9
5	Popular Mechanics.....	30	35	Scientific American.....	9
7	Literary Digest.....	28	35	Saturday Review of Literature.....	9
8	Child Life.....	27	39	New Outlook.....	8
8	Readers' Digest.....	27	39	Parents' Magazine.....	8
8	Saturday Evening Post.....	27	41	House and Garden.....	7
11	McCalls.....	25	41	Red Book.....	7
11	Woman's Home Companion.....	25	41	World Call.....	7
13	American Girl.....	22	44	Christian Herald.....	6
13	Harpers.....	22	44	Harper's Bazaar.....	6
15	Better Homes and Gardens.....	20	44	House Beautiful.....	6
16	Atlantic Monthly.....	18	44	Theatre Arts.....	6
16	Cosmopolitan.....	18	44	Wilson Bulletin.....	6
16	Time.....	18	49	Asia.....	5
19	Country Gentleman.....	17	49	Country Home.....	5
20	Boy's Life.....	16	49	D. A. R. Magazine.....	5
20	Colliers.....	16	49	Golden Book.....	5
20	Current History.....	16	49	Liberty.....	5
20	Hygeia.....	16	49	Missouri Club Woman.....	5
20	Popular Science.....	16	49	New Republic.....	5
25	Columbia.....	15	49	Open Road for Boys.....	5
25	Pictorial Review.....	15	49	Out Door Life.....	5
27	American Home.....	13	49	Survey.....	5
27	Scribners Home.....	13	49	Speciality Salesman.....	5
27	Delineator.....	12	49	The Watchman.....	5
29	Forum.....	12	49	Travel.....	5
29	St. Nicholas.....				

were reported by 30 or more libraries, while 61 were found five or more times. These, headed by the American Magazine, which was included 39 times, are shown in Table 15.

From the foregoing it would appear that newspaper and periodical facilities are rather meagrely provided when all libraries are considered. About one-half that reported had no newspapers and nearly 20 per cent had no periodicals. Most tax supported libraries provide these services and an appreciable number of them seem to be relatively well equipped. On the other hand, those that are non-tax-supported provide less service in this respect. Recent financial retrenchments may be the reason for the reduction in newspapers and periodicals in a number of instances. However, even in more prosperous times non-tax support does not readily identify itself with efficiency in this type of service.

**Librarians.**—It has been said that the library is three-fourths librarian.<sup>65</sup> Certainly the importance of carefully selected and especially trained persons for administering library service cannot easily be overemphasized. The trained librarian is fully as professional as the lawyer, the doctor, or the public accountant and should receive the compensation and recognition which are justly due. A librarian is not just a custodian of books. His functions are many and varied. The librarian meets human nature face to face every day and must be able to deal successfully with people. He is employed not merely for the purpose of issuing books to be read but he must know something about the content of the books and the types of persons to whom they are adapted. Among other things, the librarian must be an administrator and an organizer—a leader in the community or county, as the case may be. The trained librarian is the determining factor in the superior service that is rendered by adequately equipped libraries, in contrast with that provided by those less well equipped.

In Missouri, outside of Kansas City and St. Louis, there were 259 persons reported as full time, part time, and volunteer public librarians. Only a few libraries afforded no data in this connection. One hundred thirty, or almost one-half of the librarians serve full time. Publicly supported institutions have 100 employed full time, while the remaining 30 are in non-tax-supported. In addition to these there are 65 volunteers, 16 of which are in tax supported libraries. Of the 49 part-time librarians, 29 are found in tax supported institutions and the remaining 20 in non-tax-supported. It should be noted here, in reference to full-time librarians, that numbers given for the tax and non-tax classifications are not directly comparable. That is, a number of the full-time librarians in non-tax-supported libraries do not serve as much time as these

<sup>65</sup>*Library Extension, op. cit.*, p. 22.



persons do in most cases in publicly supported institutions. This is due to the fact that many of the former are affiliated with libraries which are open only a part of the week, perhaps only one, two, or three days. In the tabulation of the data it was found difficult to allocate these librarians to any other classification than that in which they were reported. For this reason they were classified as full time.

For purposes of the present study the librarian's training will be considered under two principal divisions: practical experience and formal professional training. A distribution of the number of years experience reported by 114 full-time librarians is provided in Figure 11. The greatest concentration is found between 4 and

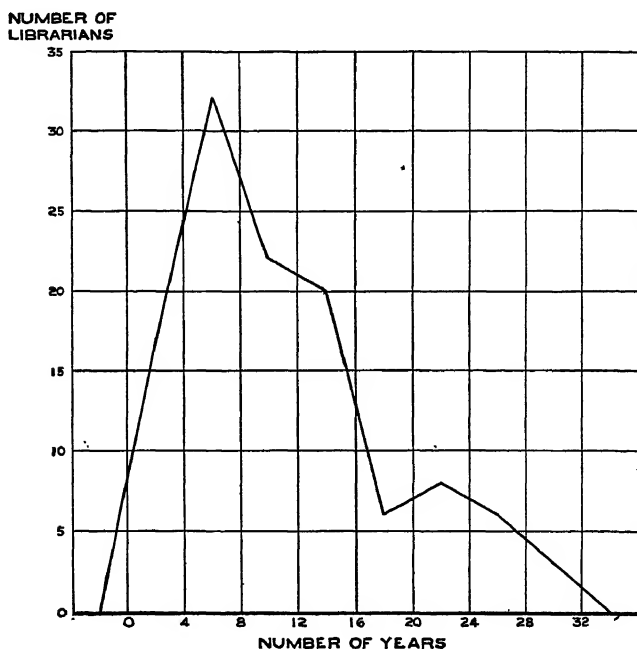


Fig. 11.—Distribution of the Number of Years Experience for 114 Full Time Public Librarians

8 years, which includes 32 cases. A total of 17 have served less than four years, while an additional 17 have more than 20 years experience. Approximately half of these librarians have had from 5 to 15 years of public service. The curve shown is descriptive of the number of years experience as of July 1, 1935. It will be recalled that a considerable number of the libraries have been established since 1930. These, however, are not publicly supported.

Most of the full-time librarians included here are in libraries maintained by public moneys.<sup>68</sup> Thus the concentration between 4 and 8 years of service is not due to the factor of new librarians in new libraries. This follows since only a few tax supported institutions have been established during the last decade. The relatively large number of cases reporting less than four years experience is, however, augmented as a consequence of the newer libraries. The apparent ruggedness of the curve is not of much significance. It would probably be much smoother if a greater number of observations were available. There are not enough cases included here to warrant the making of broad generalizations. However, for Missouri, it appears that public libraries are moderately staffed with persons of experience. It is also probable that the problem of personnel turnover is much less acute in libraries than it is in many other types of institutions.

TABLE 16.—AVERAGE NUMBER OF YEARS EXPERIENCE FOR FULL TIME PUBLIC LIBRARIANS

Librarian Classification	Number of librarians	Average number of years	Median number of years	Range in years
Rural.....	21	8.86	4.00	1-23
Urban.....	93	11.51	10.21	1-29
Total.....	114	11.02	9.45	1-29
Total Tax Support.....	94	12.00	9.60	1-29

These 114 librarians have served on the average a little more than 11 years in public libraries. If only those connected with tax supported institutions are considered, the average is 12 years. The median for the latter is a little less than 10 years, while the least number of years of experience was one, and the greatest 29. The averages are shown in Table 16. Librarians in rural libraries are not as experienced as urban librarians based upon the number of years served. The medians show a decided advantage in favor of urban experience. A half-dozen extremes of 15 to 23 years lend bias to the rural average. The median of four years in this latter case is more typical. The urban median is over 10 years.

The average number of years experience for 23 part-time librarians is slightly more than three years. The experience of these librarians ranged from less than 1 to 9 years. The median in this instance is 3 years.

Only about ten per cent of the librarians who are included in the study have served in libraries other than the one in which they are now located. Of these, 17 have acquired experience in two different situations, four more have served in three, and only one has served in four. One librarian has seen service in eight

<sup>68</sup>Nearly 80.0 per cent are in tax supported libraries.

different libraries. These data seem to show that librarians in this state are not a mobile group. The turnover in library personnel is not great and tenure would seem to depend almost entirely upon the librarian as an individual.

Nearly all of the 259 librarians provided information pertaining to their formal education. Only 47 out of a total of 244 who answered with respect to whether they had attended a library school replied in the affirmative. This is a little more than 19 per cent of the total number. All but four who have professional training are full-time librarians. When classified, only one librarian with this achievement is found among the several non-tax-supported libraries. On the other hand, almost 32 per cent in publicly supported institutions are so trained. Approximately 9 per cent of the rural librarians have received this training, compared with 25 per cent in urban places. These data along with information pertaining to college training are presented in Table 17.

TABLE 17.—NUMBER OF PUBLIC LIBRARIANS WHO HAVE ATTENDED LIBRARY SCHOOL AND COLLEGE

Librarian Classification	Tax Support					Non Tax Support				
	Library School		College			Library School		College		
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Not reporting	Yes	No	Yes	No	Not reporting
Rural:										
Full-Time.....	7	6	9	4			14	7	4	3
Part-Time.....	1	5	2		1		14	2	7	5
Volunteer.....				3			40	10	8	22
Subtotal-Rural.....	8	12	12	7	1		68	19	19	30
Urban:										
Full-Time.....	35	52	56	20	11	1	15	8	5	3
Part-Time.....	2	25	14	7	6		6		3	3
Volunteer.....	1	10	1	5	5		9	4	4	1
Subtotal-Urban.....	38	87	71	32	22	1	30	12	12	7
All Librarians:										
Full-Time.....	42	58	65	24	11	1	29	15	9	6
Part-Time.....	3	26	15	7	7		20	2	10	8
Volunteer.....	1	15	3	8	5		49	14	12	23
Total.....	46	99	83	39	23	1	98	31	31	37

There is no outstanding period of time in which librarians attended library school. The year 1909 was the earliest date listed. Two mentioned 1911, a like number gave 1912, another attended school in 1913, and so on. There is a slight concentration shown in the last decade, but with the small number of observations included here it is not to be considered especially significant. A summary shows that about 31 per cent of the librarians with formal training received it before 1920. Approximately one-half attended a library school since 1924.

A total of 40 reported college degrees, most of which were B. S. or A. B. An appreciably larger number, however have attended college. Of the 184 librarians reporting this information,

114 have had some college attendance while 70 have not. Roughly 68 per cent of those in tax supported institutions and 50 per cent of those in non-tax-supported have been enrolled in colleges. Out of 47 who have registered in library school, 33 have also attended college. Nearly one-half of the latter have college degrees.

Considering that special library training is not only essential but is a measuring stick as well, the indications are that most of the public librarians in this state do not come up to the academic standards which distinguish the librarian as a professional worker. Some of our public librarians are well trained, in both education and experience. Others have experience but not the special training. Still others have neither.<sup>67</sup> However, to clarify this situation further it should be definitely set forth that the blame for lack of training on the part of a number of librarians cannot be placed entirely on the initiative of the individuals concerned. Specific reference is made here to the slight remuneration afforded by a large number of libraries. It is to be noted that half of the librarians without special training are in non-tax-supported libraries, most of which are reported as being financially unsound. Yet it remains significant that there are twice as many librarians in tax supported institutions without special training as there are with special training. Lack of established standards and minimum requirements has also been a contributing factor in this situation.<sup>68</sup> However, "The wider adoption and enforcement of improved certification requirements for librarians" are being urged by the American Library Association Council and the Board of Education for Librarianship as effective means of establishing and maintaining those high standards of education, professional training, and experience upon which successful library service so largely depends."<sup>69</sup>

The analysis of the reports concerning income shows the aggregate annual salary for public librarians in this state, outside the two largest cities, to be \$112,030. This total represents the sum of the salaries reported by 166 of a total of 194 full- and part-time librarians recorded in these data. Nearly all in publicly supported institutions provided salary data. Since these account for most of the total salary that is paid, the total given above is not far from accurate.<sup>70</sup> A little less than 90 per cent of the aggregate salary comes from tax supported payrolls. In round figures, a little more than \$93,000 goes to full-time librarians in publicly

<sup>67</sup>Yet, to quote the words of one author, "credit should not be withheld from the librarians who serve these libraries to the best of their abilities on little pay, or to the women in the small towns who are responsible for the establishment of libraries and do much to keep them a going institution." (Iowa Library Commission, *Seventeenth Report*, 1934, p. 6.)

<sup>68</sup>"At present there are no educational nor professional qualifications required of applicants for library positions in Missouri," *State Library Plan of Missouri*, adopted by the Missouri Library Association, Nov. 1935. (mimeographed release).

<sup>69</sup>Bulletin of the American Library Association, Vol. 28, Dec. 1934, p. 882.

<sup>70</sup>The few salaries not reported would not greatly increase this sum.

supported libraries, while about \$6,000 is paid annually to those serving part time in these same institutions. The aggregate of \$112,030 is further distributed with almost \$11,000 to full-time librarians associated with non-tax support. Part-time librarians in the non-tax-supported received about \$2,000 as a total sum.

An average annual income for all librarians is approximately \$675. This measure, however, bears but little significance as a typical representation, inasmuch as there is considerable variation in salaries. Therefore, averages have been computed for several salary classifications in order that typical measures might be determined. In the tax supported, the full-time librarian receives, on the average, \$942, the range being from \$208 to \$4,080. The latter is, however, an extreme. When it is eliminated and the average is recomputed, it falls to \$910. Other than the observation of \$4,080 there is only one that exceeds \$2,000, and this is \$2,160. The 99 salaries for full-time librarians in publicly supported institutions are distributed as follows: 31 are over \$1,000 with only two exceeding \$2,000; 56, by far the largest number, are from \$500 to \$1,000; the remaining 12 are less than \$500, with one of only \$208. The highest salary (\$900) reported from rural tax supported libraries is below the average for all these full-time salaries and it is farther below the urban average. The rural average is less than half the urban average. These computations are shown in Table 18 for full-time and part-time salaries classified according to means of support and population. No averages were computed for classifications in which less than five cases were reported.

A summary of these data shows at least three significant facts. The average salary in non-tax-supported libraries is, with no exceptions, lower than the average in tax supported institutions. At the same time, average salaries under all rural classifications are lower than urban averages with corresponding classification. A third fact, closely related with this, is that in general the average annual salary increases as the population increases. This, of course, may be the obvious expectation but a question might be raised at this point, for which no answer will be attempted. That is, what should be the librarian's salary in Missouri, and how much should this salary differ within rural and urban areas and between the two? It does seem that the salaries shown here are below the logical expectation if trained librarians are to be maintained. It may be that the service areas of many libraries are too small to make adequate provision. If so, it remains for county, regional, and state planning to suggest and initiate a revision and, perhaps, the incorporation of existing service areas.

TABLE 18.—AVERAGE SALARY OF PUBLIC LIBRARIANS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO POPULATION, EXTENT OF SERVICE AND MEANS OF SUPPORT,  
1935

Population Classification	Full Time Librarians						Part Time Librarians					
	Tax Support			Non Tax			Tax Support			Non Tax		
	Average salary	Me- dian	Range	No. of cases	Average salary	Me- dian	Range	No. of cases	Average salary	Me- dian	Range	No. of cases
Rural:												
500- 999				**	\$284.80	\$360	\$24-\$576	5				3
1,000-1,499	*			2	*			2				5
1,500-2,499	\$498.40	\$510	\$208-\$ 900	10	249.67	124	50- 660	6	*			2
Subtotal-Rural	490.33	510	208- 900	12	246.31	144	24- 660	13	*			10
Urban:												
2,500- 4,999	590.00	570	360- 840	12	553.00	510	152- 996	8	\$213.50	\$153	\$120-\$480	1
5,000- 9,999	757.79	720	324-1,200	14	612.00	600	480- 720	5	187.13	135	.42- 480	4
10,000-24,999	1,017.58	909	586-1,911	26				**	251.33	258	120- 420	**
25,000 and over	1,235.14	1,080	600-4,080	35				**	348.00	390	180- 390	**
Subtotal-Urban	1,004.32	840	324-4,080	87	575.69	600	152- 996	13	241.04	180	42- 480	5
Total	942.02	840	208-4,080	99	411.00	375	24- 996	26	235.92	180	42- 480	15

\*An insufficient number of cases to average.

\*\*No cases reported.

**Expenditures.**—In 1934 there were about 46 million dollars spent by all public libraries in the United States.<sup>71</sup> In the same year over 900 thousand dollars were expended by similar institutions in Missouri. From the standpoint of library efficiency in this state, however, this sum, which appears to be a rather substantial amount in the aggregate, is considerably less than that established by recognized standards. When the total spent is apportioned over the population, there was an expenditure of only about 27 cents per capita in 1934. As a reasonable minimum annual revenue for maintenance of a good library system with trained librarians, the American Library Association adopted one dollar per capita for the population of the area served as a standard.<sup>72</sup> With this in mind we will consider the distribution of public library expenditures. This discussion will include expenditures in Kansas City and St. Louis.

Several libraries included in the study did not report data on expenditures. In most cases they had no report to make because they were established less than one year before the current data were assembled. However, most of these are not publicly supported and no large sum is involved. Nearly 98 per cent of the total funds spent in 1934 were from libraries in urban communities. The remaining 2 per cent was reported by rural libraries. At the same time, over 98 per cent of all expenditures were made by the tax supported in contrast to the less than 2 per cent by the non-tax-supported. The distribution of expenditures by population is included in Table 19. Thus it is shown that more than 85 per cent of the total expenditures in the state were made through libraries in the five cities of over 25,000 population. On the other hand, only about one-half of one per cent of all expenditures occurred in all areas of less than 1,500 population. This distribution of expenditures is, of course, similar to that for the number of volumes and circulation, with the greatest concentration in the urban areas. There is, however, evidence of slightly greater concentration of expenditures in these areas than was shown by either volume or circulation.<sup>73</sup> This is said considering that expenditures from several libraries are not included here. When such data from these are made available, the urban portion will likely more than offset the rural expenditures that may be reported.

Here, as in the previous consideration of circulation, an average expenditure was computed for each library and a total obtained for each county and for the state.<sup>74</sup> In the instance of expenditures this sum for the state exceeded the total in 1934. It should be re-

<sup>71</sup>*Contrasts in Library Service, op. cit.* The exact total was \$45,855,400.

<sup>72</sup>*Library Extension, op. cit.*, p. 24.

<sup>73</sup>Volumes in urban libraries were 92.8 per cent of the total, circulation was 96.5 per cent of the total, and 97.9 per cent of all expenditures were in these libraries.

<sup>74</sup>Appendix pp. 82-94.

TABLE 19.—EXPENDITURES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO POPULATION

Population Classification	Library Classification											
	Tax Support				Non Tax				All Libraries			
	No. of libraries	Average Expenditure		Expenditure Last Year*	No. of libraries	Average Expenditure		Expenditure Last Year*	No. of libraries	Average Expenditure		Expenditure Last Year*
		Total	Per cent			Total	Per cent			Total	Per cent	
Urban:												
Less than 500	0				1	\$ 13.09	0.07	\$ 21.41	1	\$ 13.09	0.00	\$ 21.41
500- 999	0				7	534.61	2.96	361.60	7	534.61	0.05	361.60
1,000- 1,499	3	3,009.85	0.28	2,882.37	10	1,435.52	7.94	1,421.42	13	4,445.37	0.41	4,303.79
1,500- 2,499	11	14,626.27	1.38	12,481.66	17	2,890.71	16.00	2,660.11	28	17,516.98	1.63	15,141.17
Subtotal-Rural	14	17,636.12	1.66	15,363.43	35	4,873.93	26.97	4,464.54	49	22,510.05	2.09	19,827.97
Urban:												
2,500- 4,999	11	16,241.14	1.53	13,501.94	11	6,722.05	37.20	6,368.10	22	22,963.19	2.13	19,870.04
5,000- 9,999	10	35,701.89	3.37	30,718.31	7	6,297.25	34.84	5,921.32	17	41,999.14	3.90	36,639.63
10,000-24,999	9	58,524.84	5.52	61,272.87	1	178.49	0.99	178.49	10	58,703.33	5.44	61,451.36
25,000 and over	5	931,908.50	87.92	800,840.72	0				5	931,908.50	86.44	800,840.72
Subtotal-Urban	35	1,042,376.37	98.34	906,333.84	19	13,197.79	73.03	12,467.91	54	1,055,574.16	97.91	918,801.75
Total	49	1,060,012.49	100.00	921,697.27	54	18,071.72	100.00	16,932.45	103	1,078,084.21	100.00	938,629.72

\*1934.



called that this measure is for purposes of comparison and is to provide a more representative total than that afforded by 1934 data, which is abnormal. It is, merely a total of the averages for the several libraries. This is also shown in Table 19. The percentage distribution of expenditures by population is virtually the same for the total average as for expenditures in 1934.

In this latter year there was an expenditure of 27.5 cents per capita in Missouri.<sup>75</sup> In respect to other states, this per capita ranked twenty-third.<sup>76</sup> Massachusetts and California had the highest per capitās, with \$1.08 and \$0.77, respectively, while the lowest were found in Arkansas and Mississippi, each with only two cents.

Missouri's per capita expenditure ranks favorably with most of her adjoining states. This rank is second, following that of Illinois, but is only slightly ahead of Iowa, which has an expenditure of \$0.26 per capita. Of Missouri and adjoining states, only Illinois has a per capita that exceeds that for the United States, as is shown in Figure 12. It should be pointed out here that if the

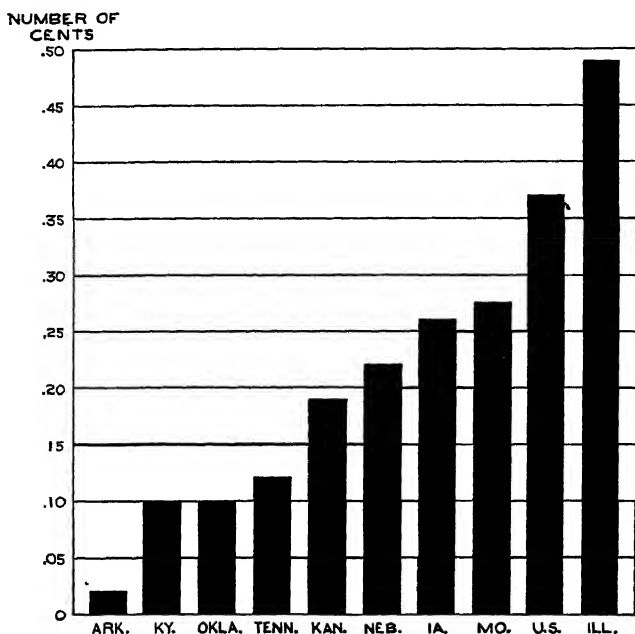


Fig. 12.—Public Library Expenditure Per Capita in Missouri, Adjoining States and the United States, 1934

<sup>75</sup>This is 3.5 cents larger than the per capita recently computed by the American Library Association. The difference is probably accounted for by the fact that a greater total expenditure was revealed by the current study. Also, population having facilities from which no data were received was deducted. This would likewise increase the per capita.

<sup>76</sup>Data for other states were taken from *Contrasts in Library Service*, op. cit.

TABLE 20.—EXPENDITURES BY YEARS FOR 17 TAX SUPPORTED PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Place	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934
Brookfield.....	\$ 3,202.00	\$ 3,204.28	\$ 3,682.15	\$ 4,208.29	\$ 4,023.19	\$ 4,147.15	\$ 5,106.20	\$ 4,143.30	\$ 4,255.15	\$ 4,673.57
Cape Girardeau.....	5,358.64	5,739.80	6,354.61	7,801.74	6,341.91	6,480.69	5,580.28	6,841.86	6,373.04	4,833.99
Columbia.....	5,276.61	4,301.75	4,605.71	5,592.02	5,456.82	5,965.92	6,680.12	5,981.54	8,338.85	6,280.63
Excelsior Springs.....	2,018.06	2,250.54	2,338.34	2,220.99	2,400.90	2,280.94	2,407.24	2,753.26	2,500.55	2,339.06
Fulton.....	2,707.62	2,620.79	3,201.70	2,711.88	2,814.05	3,093.69	2,759.95	3,011.34	3,003.29	1,707.06
Hamilton.....	966.00	*809.28	1,147.32	696.12	1,057.22	1,184.19	974.94	1,030.46	906.65	534.03
Joplin.....	16,211.54	14,771.05	17,511.83	14,787.25	15,082.32	17,005.51	16,285.37	16,024.54	11,189.27	12,886.05
Louisiana.....	1,955.49	2,086.26	1,757.04	1,852.56	1,981.07	1,826.75	1,676.95	1,806.93	1,651.73	1,665.95
Macon.....	2,516.60	2,560.61	2,493.95	2,497.44	2,474.26	1,995.10	2,720.37	2,596.12	2,368.76	2,068.76
Marceline**.....	2,087.99	2,240.47	1,971.27	2,883.21	2,187.94	2,024.87	2,289.73	2,340.92	1,885.44	2,336.01
Marshfield.....	915.56	907.32	739.37	1,111.37	717.71	552.53	822.91	547.85	556.83	866.29
Moberly.....	5,292.33	4,900.47	5,365.85	4,960.41	4,528.73	4,697.72	4,998.53	4,903.90	4,448.58	3,898.79
St. Joseph.....	57,321.95	59,294.25	53,765.87	58,111.16	58,514.87	56,128.21	55,880.60	55,313.69	42,917.93	37,500.47
Sedalia.....	11,670.82	9,015.15	14,265.68	11,273.64	10,555.35	11,067.80	13,195.95	12,680.99	8,182.37	8,800.86
Shelbina.....	1,076.53	1,034.43	1,582.93	1,132.89	1,238.37	1,461.43	1,335.24	1,492.05	1,469.46	1,495.47
Springfield.....	18,435.63	18,774.06	20,871.67	21,561.96	27,756.75	27,641.49	28,408.13	29,115.82	27,915.88	25,148.50
Webb City.....	3,911.37	3,785.06	3,988.71	3,913.98	3,455.40	3,683.82	3,484.38	3,002.48	2,286.36	1,800.20
All Places.....	140,924.74	138,295.57	145,644.00	147,296.91	150,586.86	151,237.81	154,534.89	153,587.05	130,250.14	118,833.49
Per cent increase over preceding year.....		5.31	1.13	2.23	2.23	0.43	2.18	0.61	-15.19	-8.77
Total omitting three largest cities***.....	48,955.62	45,456.21	53,494.63	52,836.54	49,232.92	50,462.60	53,960.79	53,133.00	48,227.06	43,298.67
Per cent increase over preceding year.....		-7.15	17.68	-1.23	-6.82	2.49	6.93	-1.53	-9.23	-10.22

\*Estimated from a report for 8 months.

\*\*This library is now supported by city water and light funds; it was tax supported up to June, 1934.

\*\*\*The three largest cities omitted are: St. Joseph, Joplin and Springfield.

expenditures for libraries in Kansas City and St. Louis are excluded, the per capita for the remainder of Missouri is only about \$0.09. But for the largest cities, Missouri would be less conspicuous in relation to other states than is here shown.

The per capita expenditure for the state is over \$0.31 when the total average is used rather than the sum in 1934. By counties the range is from one-tenth of one cent in Stoddard county to \$0.67 in the city county of St. Louis. Figure 13 shows these per capita expenditures by counties. If the 1934 per capitas were

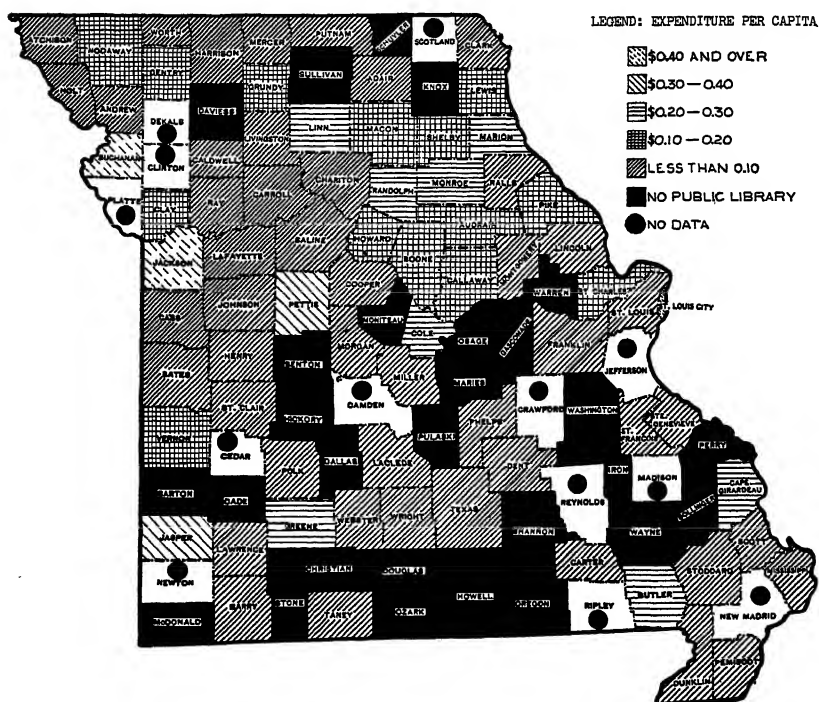


Fig. 13.—Average Annual Expenditure Per Capita for Public Libraries by Counties.

shown instead of those derived from averages, only about a dozen counties would be classified differently. These would, for the most part, fall in the classification next below the one in which they appear in Figure 13. Only three places in the state have an average per capita expenditure that is \$0.90 or more. These and their per capitas are: Albany in Gentry county, with \$0.95; Monroe City with \$0.91; and Paris, which has the highest per capita in the state, with \$1.59. These two latter communities are in Monroe county. All three have tax supported libraries which

have been established a number of years and each has a population of less than 2,500, the arbitrary rural-urban dividing line.

A view of the trend in expenditures is shown by reports for the last ten years from 17 tax supported libraries.<sup>77</sup> These are the same libraries that were used in the consideration of the trend in the number of volumes and in circulation, with the exception of Nevada, for which sufficient reports were not available. The data that were on hand for this library indicate the same general tendency that is shown by the other institutions here included. Prior to 1932 and since 1925, all years except 1926 showed for these libraries at least some increase in total expenditures over the preceding year. Beginning in 1932, however, each of the three years up to 1935 have brought a decrease over the preceding year. Total expenditures in 1934 were almost 16 per cent below those in 1925 and were the lowest for any one year of the decade under consideration. The highest expenditure in the last ten years was in 1931. This total was nearly 10 per cent above the sum in 1925 and more than 23 per cent greater than that of 1934, as is shown in Table 20. When the three largest cities are omitted, only three of the last nine years have an increase over the preceding year. Again, 1931 was the peak year in total expenditures, being a little over 10 per cent greater than 1925 and about 20 per cent above 1934.

From this it appears that total expenditures are not uniform from year to year. This is perhaps in part accounted for by differences in the necessity for replacements and essential running expenses. The principal contributing factor here, however, may be the fluctuation from year to year in total receipts, most of which are derived from tax levies. In the long run, receipts are virtually synonymous with expenditures. The decline in total receipts and expenditures during the year since 1931 may be largely a reflection of economic conditions of the time as expressed through less revenue from taxation.

A point of special significance in regard to library service is that from 1931 to 1933 total circulation increased around 15 per cent while receipts and expenditures decreased nearly 16 per cent. This serves to indicate the service problem which has confronted public libraries in this state during the last few years. Data on expenditures were available for 13 libraries in addition to the 17 used above. When all of these (30) are considered, about the same result is found. The year in which the greatest total expenditure was made remains 1931, and the total in 1934 was more than 14 per cent below that of 1925.

<sup>77</sup>Data for the nine years prior to 1934 were obtained from the Annual Reports of the Missouri Library Commission.

The trend in expenditures, in relation to the number of volumes and circulation is shown in Figure 14. The totals by years are plotted for the sample libraries considered under the discussion of these factors above. On the scale of the chart equal distances represent equal ratios.<sup>78</sup> Therefore equal slopes in the

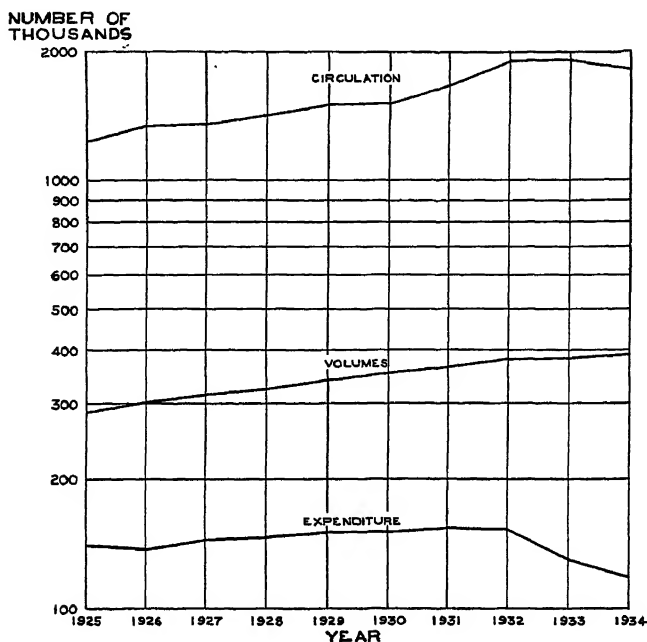


Fig. 14.—Total Circulation, Volumes and Expenditures for Selected Public Libraries, 1925-1934

curves represent equal rates of change and equal rises or falls denote equal percentage changes.<sup>79</sup> Over the ten-year interval from 1925 through 1934 expenditures have not, in any year except 1927, increased at as great a rate as have both volumes and circulation. The chart shows the relatively large percentage increase in circulation that occurred in 1931 and 1932, as well as the decline in expenditures which began in 1931. It is noted that expenditures declined at about the same rate as that by which circulation increased. The decline in expenditures, however, had its beginning after circulation had evidenced a decided upturn. The "leveling off" and decline in the circulation rate after 1932 is also shown, as is the lower rate of increase in the number of volumes. This latter, of course, is largely a reflection of the greater percentage of decrease in expenditures which occurred

<sup>78</sup>This chart is ruled semi-logarithmically.

<sup>79</sup>This being true, comparison of things measured in different units is facilitated. These units are volumes and dollars in the present case.

at the same time. These trends occurred while the total population of the places under consideration was increasing by something like 10 to 12 per cent during the past decade.<sup>80</sup>

Within the library, expenditures are distributed for salaries, new books, newspapers, periodicals, book binding and mending, transportation, and various running expenses. The data gathered show the percentage distribution of expenditures according to four classifications: new books, newspapers and periodicals, salaries, and running expenses. The last includes all expenditures not included in the other three types. From the data of 29 tax supported libraries it was found that 52 per cent of all expenditures were disbursed in the form of salaries. Running expenses consumed nearly 28 per cent, while over 17 per cent was allocated for new books. Less than 3 per cent went for newspapers and periodicals. These data, which are for the year 1934 only, are shown in Figure 15.

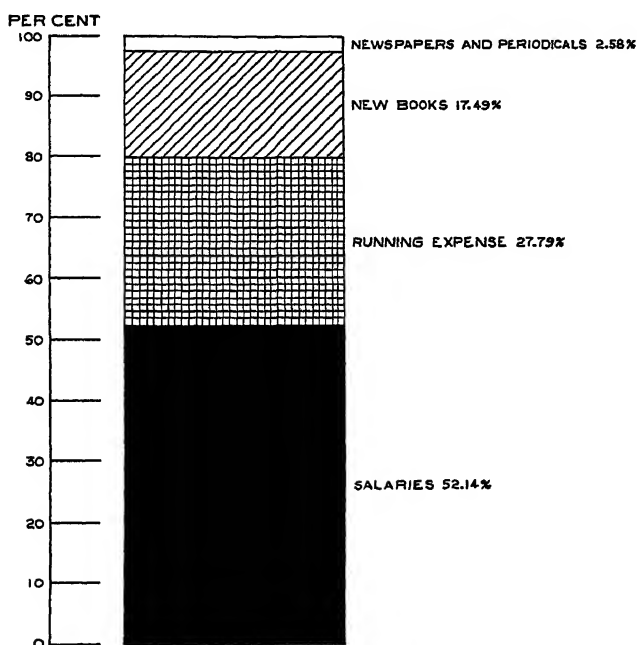


Fig. 15.—Percentage Distribution of Expenditures for 29 Public Libraries, 1934

From the standpoint of allocation of moneys it is probable that this distribution is a reasonably good one, considering the

<sup>80</sup>The rate of increase in population is based on the assumption that this population has increased at the same rate from 1925 to 1935 as it did during the last census period. If Springfield, which experienced rapid growth from 1920-1930, is excluded the rate of increase for the remaining places has probably been around 8 per cent.

sum which the libraries had to mete out. The real difficulty, perhaps, rests with the total sum involved. Just what the amount is that should be provided for a given library in order that efficient and complete service with trained librarians can be maintained is problematical. It is believed that a one dollar per capita minimum is perhaps too high an objective to seek. Certainly if it is the ideal, nearly all libraries in the state have failed in their attempts to approach it. Then it may be that the larger service area, the less the needed per capita expenditure. On the other hand, extension of areas might necessitate expenditures which would, in the end, lend no solution to the problem. "Thorough studies of what library service over a large area costs, or ought to cost, are lacking."<sup>81</sup> Such study should be made in Missouri to provide a basis for state planning which seeks to extend library service to the several thousand persons in small towns and in rural communities now without public library facilities.

## II. OTHER LIBRARY FACILITIES

In addition to public libraries there are several other types of book service in Missouri. Some of these are: High school and elementary school libraries, college, church, private, rental, special, and institutional libraries. Also there are facilities supplied by the Missouri Library Commission with headquarters in the state capitol. However, a considerable portion of these facilities are limited in their services. For some of them, only certain groups of the population have access to the service. For others, the extension of service is restricted to a more or less select group or to those who pay fees. Still others are making an attempt to bridge the gap between access and non-access to free reading matter. All are part of the general facilities found in Missouri as are the resources in farm, village, and city homes.

**High School Libraries.**—School libraries are now generally considered as educational necessities. "Time was when many people considered them frills . . . But modern methods of teaching have demonstrated their indispensability and progressive schoolmen know that the school cannot prepare the oncoming generation for its social and cultural responsibilities without them."<sup>82</sup> The need appears to be equally great regardless of the size of the school. To be sure, the question of finance may be a deterrent factor in providing for the apparent need, but there are means of solving such a difficulty. A county or regional library system would

<sup>81</sup>Fair, Ethel M., *Countrywide Library Service*, American Library Association, 1934.

<sup>82</sup>Wilson, Louis R., *New Objectives for Southern Libraries*, Bulletin of the American Library Association, Vol. 28, No. 12, 1934, p. 849.

go a long way toward filling school requirements as well as public, and particularly rural, needs and would probably be more economical per capita.<sup>83</sup>

This study has sought to determine quantitatively some of the factors relating to high school libraries. It has also sought to discover what relation these libraries may bear to the general public. The sample from which the following data were taken consists of 403 schools. This is nearly one-half of the total number in the state. The sample does not include Kansas City and St. Louis. All classes and sizes of schools are included and all but four of 114 counties are represented by at least one school.<sup>84</sup> The sample is well distributed over the state. A considerable portion of the data has been estimated in lieu of records, and for this reason should be considered only as an approximation. High school libraries are, of course, generally open only during school sessions. Most of these begin early in September and continue through May; these nine months, therefore, comprise the school year. In some sections of the state there are deviations due to adjustments to conform to the seasonal labor demand of certain agricultural crops. However, these latter cases are few and have no bearing upon the data concerned.

If data received are a sufficient indication, there are probably well over one million volumes in high school libraries. A total of nearly 500,000 was reported from 353 schools.<sup>85</sup> In average terms there are a little less than 1,400 volumes per school, with a median number of nearly 950. The size of these libraries ranges widely from 25 to well over 16,000 volumes. Since these computations are not wholly significant, the schools were arranged in several different classifications in an attempt to find clear cut dividing lines for computations of more specific importance.

Perhaps the best classification is that according to the size of school in terms of the number of students enrolled. For schools of less than 50 students there is an average of about 600 volumes, with a median of 500. This average as shown in Table 21 increases to more than 5,000 volumes, with a median of 4,600, for schools having an enrollment of between 400 and 500. In schools having less than 50 pupils enrolled there are 18 volumes per student. This decreases through all divisions of the classification by size to some 6 volumes per student in schools having 1,000 or more enrollment.<sup>86</sup> If these data are typical, then in general, the larger the school, the larger the average number of volumes. At the same time, as the size of the school in-

<sup>83</sup>An excellent article on the relation of the county library system to schools is that by L. F. Fargo: "The Superintendent Makes a Discovery," American Library Extension Board, 1931. This is also briefed in *Countryside Library Service*, op. cit., pp. 70-75.

<sup>84</sup>The counties not included are Dent, Madison, Warren, and Worth.

<sup>85</sup>Out of a total of 403 high schools, only 12 reported no library. One library was recently destroyed by fire; 353 reported the number of volumes, and those remaining did not estimate the number.

<sup>86</sup>Enrollment data taken from the *Eighty-Fifth Report of the Public Schools of the State of Missouri*, year ending June 30, 1934.



TABLE 21.—NUMBER OF VOLUMES PER SCHOOL AND PER STUDENT IN HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO SIZE OF SCHOOL

Classification of high schools according to size	No. of schools	Total enrollment	High School Library Volumes, 1935				
			Total (approximate)	Average per school	Median per school	Range	Per student
Less than 50	91	3,060	55,619	611.20	500	125- 2,500	18.18
50- 99	126	8,987	106,067	841.80	800	25- 2,434	11.80
100-199	86	12,098	139,651	1,623.84	1,474	300- 5,181	11.54
200-299	23	5,848	56,112	2,439.65	2,400	225- 4,858	9.60
300-399	12	4,200	39,055	3,254.58	3,428	1,500- 4,901	9.30
400-999	12	7,688	62,387	5,198.92	4,600	1,500-11,294	8.11
1,000 and over	3	4,806	30,538	*	*	6,250-16,588	6.35
All classes	353	46,687	489,429	1,386.48	948	25-16,588	10.48

\*Insufficient number of observations for computation.

creases the number of volumes per student decreases. However, there is actually a marked variation in the number of volumes from school to school. The range in volumes for the classification in Table 21 shows this rather clearly.

The lowest number of volumes per student was 0.40, which was computed for a high school having an enrollment of 63 and only 25 volumes. The highest was 100, which was found for an enrollment of only 15 which had access to an estimated 1,500 volumes. Thus the averages are only roughly typical and, in fact, there is considerable dispersion and non-uniformity in the number of volumes in these high school libraries. This is perhaps within itself significant and suggests a need for the development of standards which probably ought to be required and maintained.<sup>87</sup>

Schools in communities having less than 2,500 population and which are here termed rural were segregated according to first, second, and third class schools and the number of volumes was classified in like manner.<sup>88</sup> This classification was not made for urban schools, since all these which were included have first class ratings. The number of volumes in first class schools averaged over 1,100, while in second class schools the average was only slightly less than 500 volumes as is shown in Table 22. The number per student increased from about 12 in first class schools to more than 24 in those of the third class. This is nearly the same tendency as shown when schools were classified according to size. First class schools are, of course, larger, so the element of size remains in the latter classification. Still another classification was made according to the population of the place in which the high school is located. Generally, larger places have the larger schools, but the factor of consolidation puts many schools in small places on a par with those in more populous centers. Therefore although the computations in Table 23 show a general tendency

<sup>87</sup>Standards for libraries in high schools have been adopted by several regional accrediting agencies such as the North Central Association. In Missouri there is no law requiring high schools to adopt and maintain standards for book collection and library personnel. *State Library Plan of Missouri*, op. cit.

<sup>88</sup>School classification, *Eighty-fifth Report of the Public Schools of the State of Missouri*, op. cit.

TABLE 22.—NUMBER OF VOLUMES PER SCHOOL AND PER STUDENT IN RURAL HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES, ACCORDING TO SCHOOL CLASSIFICATION, 1935

School classification (rural*)	No. of schools	Total enrollment	High School Library Volumes				
			Total (approximate)	Average per school	Median per school	Range	Per student
First class.....	248	23,817	285,437	1,150.96	954	195-7,048	11.98
Second class.....	29	1,153	14,027	483.69	334	25-1,024	12.17
Third class.....	16	341	8,358	522.38	383	125-1,500	24.51
Unclassified....	13	487	4,474	344.15	301	188- 530	9.19

\*Rural defined as: places having less than 2,500 population.

TABLE 23.—NUMBER OF VOLUMES PER SCHOOL AND PER STUDENT IN HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO POPULATION, 1935

Population classification	No. of schools	Total enrollment	High School Library Volumes				
			Total (approximate)	Average per school	Median per school	Range	Per student
Rural:							
Less than 500	182	10,385	126,262	693.75	600	25- 4,041	12.16
500- 999	60	5,663	68,529	1,142.15	1,070	188- 3,900	12.10
1,000- 1,499	27	3,507	42,654	1,579.78	1,200	195- 5,000	12.16
1,500- 2,499	37	6,243	74,851	2,023.00	1,890	225- 7,048	11.99
Subtotal-Rural	306	25,798	312,296	1,020.58	800	25- 7,048	12.11
Urban:							
2,500- 4,999	22	6,045	61,552	2,797.82	2,793	1,200- 4,858	10.18
5,000- 9,999	15	5,036	43,558	2,903.87	2,725	1,000- 5,073	8.65
10,000-24,999	7	5,441	40,480	5,782.86	4,600	2,000-11,294	7.44
25,000 and over	3	4,367	31,543	*	*	6,250-16,588	7.22
Subtotal-Urban	47	20,889	177,133	3,768.79	3,116	1,000-16,588	8.48
Total	353	46,687	489,429	1,386.48	948	25-16,588	10.48

\*Insufficient number of observations for computation.

similar to that of the other classifications, it is not as clearly defined as in the classification of schools on the basis of size.

Information pertaining to circulation in high school libraries was also sought but most of that obtained is insufficient for presentation. The apparent absence of library records is the principal difficulty encountered in use of these data. A few available reports indicate that circulation has increased during the years 1930 to 1934 inclusive. This increase was such that about 15 or 20 per cent more volumes were circulated in 1934 than in 1930. However, most of these few reports are estimates, and since there is probably a wider margin of error involved in estimating circulation than there is in ascertaining volumes, very little significance can be attached to the incident.

Some indication of the months of greatest and smallest circulation in 1934 was provided from 89 libraries and is shown in Table 24. These data are also largely composed of estimates, which probably accounts for the fact that little agreement is found for the month of largest circulation. However, there is sufficient agreement to indicate that circulation in high school libraries is probably greatest from November through January. More or less obvious months were reported most frequently for smallest circulation. Here there was considerable consensus of opinion that September, the opening month of school, and May, the closing month, were those in which the fewest books were circulated.

TABLE 24.—MONTHS OF LARGEST AND SMALLEST CIRCULATION IN HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES, 1934

Month	Largest Circulation			Smallest Circulation		
	Number of schools	Per cent	Circulation	Number of schools	Per cent	Circulation
September.....	7	7.87	2,513	28	31.46	9,102
October.....	11	12.36	11,574	2	2.25	35
November.....	16	17.98	7,694	2	2.25	2,016
December.....	12	13.48	2,823	4	4.49	3,280
January.....	18	20.22	20,752	3	3.37	2,127
February.....	7	7.87	17,281	6	6.74	519
March.....	3	3.37	960	3	3.37	371
April.....	10	11.23	9,761	14	15.73	2,787
May.....	5	5.62	14,034	27	30.34	17,229
Total.....	89	100.00	87,392	89	100.00	37,466

Newspapers were reported by 188 or 61 per cent, out of a total of 310 high schools. Nearly 40 per cent are without papers. There is an average of about  $2\frac{1}{3}$  per school.<sup>89</sup> There was a total of 435 papers designated. This includes 99 different ones. As in the case of public libraries, most of the papers are local weeklies. There were 18 listed five or more times, while only five were included as many as 10 times. These latter are indicated in Table 25.

TABLE 25.—NEWSPAPERS REPORTED TEN OR MORE TIMES IN HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Rank	Name of Newspaper	Number of Times Reported
1	Kansas City Star*	70
2	St. Louis Globe Democrat	35
3	St. Louis Post Dispatch	17
4	St. Joseph News Press	12
4	Springfield Daily News	12

\*The Kansas City Times (morning edition of the Star) was reported 24 times.

Periodicals were listed by nearly 80 per cent of the schools while the remaining 20 per cent have none. The average was almost 9 for all schools, while urban schools averaged 20 and those in places of less than 2,500 population averaged around 6. These computations do not include schools having none. Over 2,100 periodicals were listed, including 248 different ones. Among these, 81 were given 5 or more times while 40 were represented at least 10 times. Table 26 shows these latter in the order of the frequency in which they were reported. All but less than a dozen of these periodicals are included in the public library list of those reported 5 or more times in the above study.

Generally the high schools have part-time student library attendants. Among 374 schools there were 44 that reported full-time librarians. Most of these, however, are not comparable to full-time librarians in public libraries. That is, the high school librarian often assumes other duties as well as those incident to the library.

<sup>89</sup>The average includes only schools that have newspapers.

TABLE 26.—PERIODICALS REPORTED TEN OR MORE TIMES IN HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Rank	Name of Periodical	No. of times reported	Rank	Name of Periodical	No. of times reported
1	Literary Digest.....	114	20	Saturday Evening Post.....	25
2	National Geographic.....	89	22	Atlantic Monthly.....	23
3	Popular Science.....	70	23	Boy's Life.....	21
4	Reader's Digest.....	67	24	Scribners.....	19
5	Hygeia.....	66	25	Better Homes and Gardens.....	18
6	American Magazine.....	63	25	Colliers.....	18
7	Popular Mechanics.....	58	25	Ladies Home Journal.....	18
8	Pathfinder.....	56	25	Scientific American.....	18
9	Scholastic.....	51	29	McCalls.....	14
10	Time.....	42	29	Science News Letter.....	14
11	Current History.....	39	31	New Outlook.....	13
11	Good Housekeeping.....	39	32	Asia.....	12
13	American Boy.....	38	32	Forum.....	12
13	Review of Reviews.....	38	34	Athletic Journal.....	11
15	Golden Book.....	31	34	Delineator.....	11
16	Nature Magazine.....	30	36	Etude.....	10
17	Current Events.....	28	36	Industrial Arts & Vocational Ed.....	10
18	Harpers.....	27	36	News Week.....	10
19	American Girl.....	26	36	Open Road for Boys.....	10
20	Country Gentleman.....	25	36	Woman's Home Companion.....	10

Nearly three-fourths of the 44 are in large schools located in places having more than 2,500 population. An additional 186 schools reported part-time librarians, most of whom seem to be student attendants who receive all or part of their tuition fees for compensation. The remaining 144 schools either had no librarian or gave no report. A total of 50 schools had librarians who have attended library school or received some special training although there was no indication as to the extent of this training.

In 1934 the average expenditure for books, newspapers, and periodicals in 300 high schools was a little more than \$120. The expenditures given ranged from \$1 to more than \$2,200. The average increased as the number of students enrolled increased. Table 27 shows that in schools having less than 50 students the average was a little less than \$50, while in schools with 400 up to 1,000 enrollment it was more than \$700. The highest expenditure per student was shown by the smallest schools while the largest

TABLE 27.—EXPENDITURE PER SCHOOL AND PER STUDENT IN HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIES, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO SIZE OF SCHOOL

Classification of high schools according to size	No. of schools	Total enrollment	High School Library Expenditures, 1934*				Per student
			Total (approximate)	Average per school	Median per school	Range	
Less than 50	67	2,318	\$3,311	\$49.42	\$30.00	\$1- \$178	\$1.43
50-99	112	8,012	7,532	67.25	50.00	3- 415	0.94
100-199	77**	9,792	9,329	121.16	106.00	1- 460	0.95
200-299	20	5,104	3,451	172.55	172.50	2- 486	0.68
300-399	10	3,502	2,431	243.10	163.50	76- 700	0.69
400-999	11	6,833	8,041	731.00	513.00	58-2,255	1.18
1,000 and over	3	4,806	2,620	***	***	614-1,156	0.55
All classes	300	40,367	36,715	122.38	65.00	1-2,255	0.91

\*Expenditures include only those for new books, newspapers and periodicals.

\*\*One extreme observation with an expenditure of \$1,242 is excluded.

\*\*\*Insufficient number of observations for computation.

schools spent the least per student for books, newspapers, and periodicals. Schools in places having less than 2,500 population averaged approximately \$90 for such expenditure in 1934, while those in cities of 2,500 or more averaged more than \$350. Expenditure per student for the former was a little more than \$1, while for the latter it was slightly over \$0.90.<sup>90</sup> It should be indicated that books, newspapers, and periodicals do not account for all high school library expenditures. It is true, however, that such items are probably responsible for most of the total expenditure, particularly in smaller schools. In most instances no salary expense is usually incurred, other than possible tuition grants. Bookbinding perhaps comes in for a share of expenditures but it is not thought that this is an item of much magnitude, especially in small schools. General running expenses, such as heat, light, etc., are, of course, a part of the high school's responsibilities and are not attached specifically to maintenance of the school library. It should be further noted that the data given for expenditures are only for the year 1934. Therefore, the expenditures are probably below what they would be during a normal year. This is said purely upon the assumption that more would be expended if sufficient funds were available.

The study further sought to discover something of the relationships between high school libraries and the general public and whether book loan privileges are available to the public and, if so, whether these facilities are used. It is not intended to assume that high school libraries should be open to the public, even if they were sufficiently equipped for such service. It is rather the intention to obtain some indication of a need and demand for facilities which might be shown by requests for, and use of, high school library materials by the public.

The reports show that high school facilities are available to the public in 166 or 45 per cent out of a total of 373 schools. The remaining 207 or 55 per cent indicated that their equipment is not thus available. In respect to the use of books, where permission is granted, it was found that 96 or 58 per cent of 166 schools have libraries that are used to some extent at least by the public. In answer to the question, To what extent is the library used by the public?, the following replies were typical: "Very little," "not extensively," "Seldom," "about 50 a year," "not much." Actually, most of the borrowing by the public that does occur is by ministers and clubwomen. Nearly all the use made is for reference purposes. At least, this is the tendency toward public use indicated by the replies from these several high schools.

<sup>90</sup>The exact expenditures per student were \$1.02 and \$0.92, respectively.

Three more answers, while not typical, give different aspects of the situation and it seems appropriate to include them. They are: "Very little use, not encouraged;" "no interest shown;" "the public is anxious but not permitted."

These various replies do not give much indication of public attitude. There is perhaps no good reason to assume that the public should show its enthusiasm for library facilities by making requests at the high school. It is probably best that they should not, unless a real provision is made to adequately meet public demands. Certainly most high schools have far too little in the way of library equipment for their own needs, to say nothing of caring for all public demand that could be aroused.

It is significant, however, that there are some efforts in Missouri toward cooperation between high schools and the public in this matter. Principal reference here is made to 10 public libraries that are either combined with high school facilities or are located in school buildings. Two of these are tax supported,<sup>91</sup> another is endowed,<sup>92</sup> one is supported by the school board and city,<sup>93</sup> and the remaining 6 derive their revenue from various other sources.<sup>94</sup> There may be other attempts at such cooperation but these are the principal ones that have come to attention in this study.<sup>95</sup>

The fact should be borne in mind that these few data on high school libraries are quantitative. There is a real need for qualitative study of these facilities to provide a picture of the kind of books found, their condition, and their use. The quantitative interpretation is inadequate and the true picture will remain quite well concealed until typical libraries have been studied by case methods. There are many factors to be considered in planning for further high school facilities, but economic considerations will be a principal factor. How to provide adequate high school libraries at the least cost is a prime problem. It is equally difficult to determine just what "adequacy" in these facilities is. Then, too, if the predicted shift in the age composition of the population holds true<sup>96</sup> there will be fewer students to make provision for in the not too distant future. The problem of coordination with existing library facilities will also be of foremost importance. Finally, it may be that high school needs will be cared for along with extension of service to the large number of people in this state who

<sup>91</sup>They are located at Independence in Jackson County and Webster Groves in St. Louis County.

<sup>92</sup>Savannah in Andrew County.

<sup>93</sup>Braymer in Caldwell County.

<sup>94</sup>They are: Buckner and Oak Grove in Jackson County, Steele in Pemiscot, Rolla in Phelps, Weston in Platte, and Flat River in St. Francois.

<sup>95</sup>An excellent system is in effect in Kansas City, where public library branches are established in the schools rather than as separate units.

<sup>96</sup>Thompson, Warren S., and Whelpton, P. K., *Population Trends in the United States*, McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1933.

are not served by public libraries. Such provision might be made with the county as the area of support or possibly a larger unit may be necessary and more appropriate.

**College Libraries.**—Library facilities of the universities and colleges in Missouri will not be considered here in detail but brief mention will be given to some of their features. Information for this study was received from 33 of these institutions, including the University of Missouri and St. Louis and Washington Universities. Data on the number of volumes for an additional 12 colleges were obtained from the last report of the Missouri Library Commission.<sup>97</sup>

These 45 institutions have nearly one and one-half million volumes in their libraries.<sup>98</sup> This approaches the total for such libraries in this state since all large schools are included and only a few small ones are not represented. The University of Missouri, with more than 318,000, leads in the number of volumes. Washington and St. Louis Universities follow with approximately 194,000 and 160,000 volumes, respectively. The least number indicated by a college in this state was nearly 3,000. Data from 12 schools show that the number had increased by around 45 per cent in 1934 over the total in 1925.

Most of the designations of total circulation that were obtained show only the books taken home. Circulation of reserved volumes, etc. is not included in most of the reports. Even so, more than one million volumes were circulated by 27 of these libraries during 1934. This total is no doubt small, however, if it could be compared with the actual number of books used.

All but three of 31 institutions have newspapers in their libraries, which total 211. Two others did not report. Periodicals were indicated by 32, while one school provided no information. A total of nearly 8,000 periodicals is found in these libraries.<sup>99</sup> The number ranges from 13 to 1,471, while four institutions have more than 1,000. The median for periodicals is 79.

Librarians in college and university libraries in this state are generally better trained and higher salaried than those serving in public libraries. Data for 73 librarians show that 46 have attended a library school while 27 have not. There were 70 librarians represented in the returns on college training. Of these, 59 have enrolled in college while only 11 have not. Almost all who have attended college have received at least one degree and some have more. All but 6 of these serve full time and no student assistants are included here or below in consideration of college libraries.

The number of years' experience ranged from one to 30 for the 66 reports that have been made available. Only 10 have less

<sup>97</sup>Missouri Library Commission, *Twenty-Eighth Annual Report*, 1934, pp. 25-26.

<sup>98</sup>The exact total is 1,445,833.

<sup>99</sup>The exact total is 7,840.

than 5 years, 28 have from 5 to 10 years, an additional 20 have 10 to 20 years, and 8 have 20 or more years' experience. The median is 9 years and the average is 9. A total of 57 replies indicate the number of libraries that have been served. More than one-half of these (32) have served in only one institution. The largest number served is 4, which was reported by three librarians. The average number of libraries served is 1.65.

Annual salaries for 67 full-time college librarians range from a low of \$300 to a high of \$6,000. The average salary for full-time service is \$1,396.28, while the median is \$1,200. Only 13 of these remunerations are less than \$900 but 24 are less than \$1,000. An additional 35 are from \$1,000 to \$2,000 while 8 are more than \$2,000. All college and university librarians are not included in these salary data but the sample is sufficiently large to be typical. About two-thirds of all full-time college librarians in this state are included.

Information was also received regarding service that is provided by college libraries for public borrowers. This service to "outside borrowers" is of significant consequence in most of these schools. Especially is public participation found where there are college libraries but no public libraries. College facilities are available to the public in 22 or two-thirds of the 33 schools reporting. The remaining libraries are not thus available. As for public use of these, 18 of the 22 schools have indicated that public requests are frequently granted. Most of the colleges represented are in places that have public libraries and in such situations public borrowing is not large, most of it being for reference purposes, especially by clubwomen. The extent of this circulation seems to be from around 20 to 50 volumes per month. However, in the few "college towns" where no public libraries are found, the school libraries are used rather extensively by the general public.

Rolla, in Phelps county, has only a small library, which is primarily for children, but the University of Missouri School of Mines publicly circulated more than 4,000 volumes during 1934. Total circulation for the year was around 14,000 in this library. Residents of Parkville in Platte county, accounted for an estimated 10 per cent of the total circulation in 1934 recorded by Park College, located in that place. There is no public library in Parkville, which is a town having less than 1,000 population. Something like 9,000 volumes were borrowed by public readers from the University of Missouri library during 1934. Columbia, however, in which the University is located, has a public library.

Public borrowing is especially encouraged in some colleges. For example, the following notification was made public in Flat River, St. Francois county, which has a junior college: "The library



is open from 7:00 A. M. until 12:30 P. M., not only to regular students but to anyone else in the community. That this opportunity is appreciated is evident from the increasing number of persons who make use of it."<sup>100</sup> Flat River also has a small public library which was established with F. E. R. A. assistance in 1934. Likewise the librarian at Tarkio College in Tarkio, Atchison county, made the following comment: "We welcome readers from the town and surrounding localities." Tarkio also has a tax supported public library.

From the preceding indications it seems reasonable to assume that a number of college libraries in this state are either augmenting existing public facilities or they are providing a needed service where no publicly sponsored institutions exist. It seems, further, that college facilities are more extensively used by the public than are most high school libraries. The latter, of course, do not approach the completeness of the former, and materials found in high schools are much less appropriate for public consumption than are college facilities. It should be noted that there is no intention here to assume that school libraries should be open to the public and used by it. The inference is so put only in an attempt to show, as clearly as possible, the status of these library facilities. Thus, since public use of school libraries does occur, there is a direct public relation which in some instances gives indication of a need for libraries not now existent. Other indications may point to a need for more extensive resources than those which existing public resources are able to provide.

**Miscellaneous Facilities.**—There are in Missouri a number of special libraries. Some are available to the public but the use of others is restricted to group memberships or to certain professions. The volumes contained in most of these libraries are of a special or technical nature, adapted to the needs of those who participate in their use. The ten such included in Table 28 have a total of more than 700,000 volumes. The largest of these, the library of the

TABLE 28.—SPECIAL LIBRARIES

City	Name	Date founded	No. of volumes
Columbia	State Historical Society	1898	211,290
Jefferson City	Missouri State Library	1833	65,000*
Kansas City	Bar Library Association		21,920
St. Louis	Central Bureau, Catholic Central Verein	1912	29,147
St. Louis	Concordia Gymnastic Society	1934**	558
St. Louis	Law Library Association		53,500
St. Louis	Missouri Botanical Garden	1890	125,000*
St. Louis	St. Louis Medical Society	1899	30,040
St. Louis	St. Louis Mercantile Library Association		173,841
Springfield	Court of Appeals	1909	10,000*
Total			720,296

\*Estimated

\*\*Date of reorganization.

<sup>100</sup>This is part of an item which appeared in a local paper. A copy of this article was included by the librarian when the schedule was returned for this study.

State Historical Society of Missouri, is especially significant for Missourians since it contains historical material pertaining to this state. Data for three of these were made available by the Missouri Library Commission, while the remaining 7 were represented in the present study.<sup>101</sup> There are others of this type in the state but no information has been available concerning them.

Several institutional libraries are also found. Chief among these are those in the state eleemosynary institutions. Data are not available for all that were found, but a fairly good indication of their size is obtained from reports from nine of them which are included in Table 29. These contain less than 20,000 volumes. A considerable proportion of the books are reported to have been donated by individuals and organizations and are said not to be particularly adapted to the needs of the readers. Sufficient funds for the purchase of new books and for the maintenance of old ones have not been provided.

TABLE 29.—INSTITUTIONAL LIBRARIES

City	Name of institution	No. of volumes
Boonville	Missouri Training School	2,826
Carrollton	State Children's Home	780
Fulton	State Hospital No. 1	949
Jefferson City	Missouri State Penitentiary	5,000
Jefferson City (Algoa)	Intermediate Reformatory	4,068
Mt. Vernon	Missouri State Sanatorium	3,257*
St. James	State Federal Soldiers' Home	300
St. Joseph	State Hospital No. 2	2,100**
Webb City	Jasper County Sanatorium	160
Total		19,440

\*Includes 357 medical volumes.

\*\*Missouri Library Commission, Twenty-eighth Annual Report.

A recent report by the librarian of the Missouri State Penitentiary includes the following statement: "During the past three biennial periods few books have been purchased. There has been no legislative appropriation for the purchase of books and as a consequence the books are becoming badly in need of replacement."<sup>102</sup>

Still further indication of need was received from another, as follows: "Unfortunately, this institution does not have the finances with which to purchase new books . . . . we depend largely upon gifts . . . . from various organizations." That books are in demand is shown by this next comment which comes from the same source. "Our library receives a great deal of use, naturally, as (the individuals) have no other way of passing away the time in the evening. Consequently our books receive hard usage. We always welcome donations from any person, library or organization."

<sup>101</sup>Data were taken from the *Twenty-Eighth Annual Report of the Missouri Library Commission* for the following three: Bar Library Association, Law Library Association, and St. Louis Mercantile Library Association.

<sup>102</sup>Report of Leroy Munyon, Librarian, to the Commissioners of the Department of Penal Institutions, State of Missouri, 1933-1934.

It was likewise found that current newspapers and periodicals are lacking in most of these libraries. Nearly all such are provided through donations.

From the foregoing it appears that there is a definite need for additional library facilities in state institutions. When provisions are made to extend library service to the many in Missouri who are not served, or who are insufficiently served, the state's institutional population, should be recognized and included.

A large number of rental collections are found. Some of them are owned by local individuals but most of them are the property of book rental business concerns. Generally the collections consist of from 50 to 100 volumes found in drug stores, news stands, and confectioneries. The books provided in these places by business concerns, some of which are national in scope, are usually replaced once a month with a different set of volumes. In some places small rental libraries are maintained by individuals who have accumulated private collections. In many communities people have access to only rental book service. Sometimes this is a useful service but often it is one of indifference.

The number of these rental collections is not known but it is probable that there are at least five or six hundred of them in the state which may contain a minimum total of more than 30,000 volumes. Data from several of this type have been at the disposal of this study, and it is this information which has provided the basis for what is given here. Apparently most places of more than 1,500 population have several of such book collections and a considerable number of the smaller places have at least one.

Perhaps the most significant feature in regard to rental collections is that most of them have originated since 1930. In fact, they seem to have experienced a rather phenomenal growth in number during the recent financial emergency, a time when public library circulation in Missouri was surpassing all previous records. It may be that a large number of rental collections came into existence as an answer to public demand for library service.

Circulation for a rental set of around one hundred volumes probably amounts to about three or four hundred annually. At least this seems to be a fair approximation considering only the year 1934. The typical fee for a rental volume is three cents a day, with a minimum charge of ten cents. In addition to these reading resources there are libraries in elementary schools, various social organizations, lodges and churches which are not considered here.

**The Missouri Library Commission.**—It remains in this discussion to consider the state's central library agency, the Missouri Library Commission.<sup>103</sup> There are now 44 states which have state

<sup>103</sup>A more detailed report may be obtained from the *Annual Reports* of the Missouri Library Commission, 1907-1934.

library extension agencies.<sup>104</sup> In 1925 these organizations were found in 38 states.<sup>105</sup> In some, this agency is the state library commission. In others the state library is designated for extension purposes, while in a number of states this service is under the department of education.

The central organization in this state is the Missouri Library Commission. It was created by law in March, 1907. Its duties are stated as follows: "The Commission shall give advice to all school, free and other public libraries, and to all communities which may propose to establish them, as to the best means of establishing and maintaining such libraries, the selection of books, cataloguing, and other details of library management . . . . (The commission) may purchase and operate traveling libraries, and circulate such libraries within the state among communities, libraries, schools, colleges, universities, library associations, study clubs, charitable and penal institutions, free of cost, except for transportation, under such conditions and rules as shall protect the interest of the state and best increase the efficiency of the service it is expected to render the public."<sup>106</sup>

It is through this agency that library service must be extended to more than 1,700,000 Missourians if they are to be served. For rural Missouri this organization is almost the only facility available. Even if the commission's potential clientele were grouped compactly the task of serving it would be of extraordinary proportions. As it is, with an ever increasing number of requests to be answered from all sections of the state, the undertaking is indeed a formidable one. All persons without library service, of course, do not ask the Commission for assistance. In fact, perhaps no one would conclude that it was ever intended for books to be sent to each individual who is unserved by public libraries. Rather, the purpose was to place emphasis on library extension by sending trained librarians about the state to instruct communities in how they might proceed in establishing their own local institutions. Furthermore, the intention was to furnish book collections which would from time to time supplement the volumes in existing libraries. It has also been the purpose to provide specific service for the more isolated communities, groups, and individuals by forwarding the Commission's "traveling libraries."

Regardless of the manner in which the work is to be carried on, the fact remains that it is the responsibility of the Commission to extend library service to a large number of people. There are enough of these to repopulate all of the sixteen cities in Missouri that have 10,000 or more population, including St. Louis and

<sup>104</sup>*Directory of State and Provincial Library Extension Agencies*, American Library Association, mimeographed release, April, 1935.

<sup>105</sup>*Library Extension*, *op. cit.*, p. 51.

<sup>106</sup>*Revised Statutes of Missouri*, 1929, Vol. II, Sec. 13433, p. 3,496.

Kansas City, with a sufficient number left over to create two new ones the size of Topeka, Kansas.

The functioning of the Library Commission is so extensive that it is to be treated briefly at this point. It will suffice to give some indication of its facilities, the trend in service rendered, and its capacities and importance. All data used in this connection have been taken from the Commission's Annual Reports.<sup>107</sup>

The Commission has approximately 36,000 volumes at its disposal. This total has grown from 5,000 available by the end of 1907. These are the books that form the package and traveling libraries made up and mailed from the Commission offices in the State Capitol. Many of the volumes have been received through donation.

When mailed, where do they go? The answer to this question is to be found in the classification of requests answered by the Commission. These requests, as well as the number of volumes sent out, in reply to them, are recorded by the state library agency under five classifications, as follows: communities, individuals, public libraries, schools, and study clubs.

The total number of requests complied with for an eight-year period beginning in 1927 is included in Table 30.<sup>108</sup> Here it is seen that in every year the largest percentage of the total number came from individuals. This percentage was annually increasing to the year 1930 when three-fourths of all requests answered came from this source. In 1934, however, only about one-half the requests

TABLE 30.—NUMBER OF REQUESTS ANSWERED BY THE MISSOURI LIBRARY COMMISSION, 1927-1934

Year	Classification of Requests Answered											
	Individuals		Study Clubs		Public Libraries		Communities		Schools		All Requests	
	Total re-quests	Per cent	Total re-quests	Per cent	Total re-quests	Per cent	Total re-quests	Per cent	Total re-quests	Per cent	Total re-quests	Per cent
1927	2,951	66.40	470	10.58	394	8.86	315	7.09	314	7.07	4,444	100.00
1928	3,292	67.07	517	10.53	342	6.97	395	8.05	362	7.38	4,908	100.00
1929	3,960	68.91	814	14.16	301	5.24	337	5.86	335	5.83	5,747	100.00
1930	5,143	71.20	1,018	14.09	386	5.35	396	5.48	280	3.88	7,223	100.00
1931	5,564	68.36	1,095	13.46	411	5.05	359	4.41	710	8.72	8,139	100.00
1932	6,555	64.52	2,081	20.48	387	3.81	344	3.39	792	7.80	10,159	100.00
1933	3,951	56.11	1,473	20.92	349	4.95	312	4.43	957	13.59	7,042	100.00
1934	2,176	50.73	744	17.35	238	5.55	142	3.31	989	23.06	4,289	100.00
Total	33,592	64.66	8,212	15.81	2,808	5.41	2,600	5.00	4,739	9.12	51,951	100.00

were so recorded. Schools, it is to be noted, accounted for only about 7 per cent of the total in 1927, but in 1934 they were responsible for nearly one-fourth of all requests answered. Study clubs

<sup>107</sup>Missouri Library Commission, *Annual Reports*, 1907-1934. (No reports were published for the years 1917, 1918, and 1919.)

<sup>108</sup>Only an eight-year interval was used because data previous to 1927 are not wholly comparable with those since 1927.

also have shown an increased proportion of the total during the last three years of the period.

The volumes mailed out are, obviously, distributed somewhat differently. These data (Table 31) show that the largest percentage of volumes have gone to communities. Schools and individuals also received a large portion of the total, while public libraries obtained the least. In recent years (1933 and 1934) the largest proportion of volumes has been mailed to schools, while the percentage going to communities has fallen. It should be noted here that the number of volumes mailed is not representative of the total circulation of volumes within communities. It has been estimated by the Commission that each book circulates at least 5 times after it reaches its destination. Thus if 50,000

TABLE 31.—NUMBER OF VOLUMES CIRCULATED BY THE MISSOURI LIBRARY COMMISSION, 1927-1934

Year	Classification of Circulation											
	Communities		Schools		Individuals		Public Libraries		Study Clubs		All Circulation	
	Total vol- umes	Per cent	Total vol- umes	Per cent	Total vol- umes	Per cent	Total vol- umes	Per cent	Total vol- umes	Per cent	Total vol- umes	Per cent
1927	17,678	42.67	10,193	24.61	8,608	20.78	3,133	7.56	1,815	4.38	41,427	100.00
1928	21,892	48.30	9,327	20.58	9,158	20.21	2,917	6.43	2,031	4.48	45,325	100.00
1929	17,268	40.00	9,421	21.82	10,750	24.90	2,509	5.81	3,227	7.47	43,175	100.00
1930	21,265	38.32	9,390	16.92	16,083	28.98	4,671	8.42	4,082	7.36	55,491	100.00
1931	19,451	34.44	12,183	21.57	17,217	30.48	3,235	5.73	4,398	7.78	56,484	100.00
1932	17,982	29.82	13,490	22.37	19,318	32.03	2,253	3.74	7,258	12.04	60,301	100.00
1933	15,214	29.28	16,546	31.84	11,227	21.60	2,153	4.14	6,827	13.14	51,967	100.00
1934	5,017	17.05	11,765	39.98	7,880	26.78	1,119	3.80	3,648	12.39	29,429	100.00
Total	135,767	35.39	92,315	24.07	100,241	26.15	21,990	5.73	33,286	8.68	383,599	100.00

volumes are sent out, the actual circulation approximates 250,000. In fact, there are frequent instances, particularly in rural schools, where books circulate as many as 30 times. The estimate is probably very conservative and if sufficient data were at hand it is quite likely that the multiplier to be used in determining the real circulation would prove to be much larger. This assumption is based on comments by readers, published in the Commission's Annual Reports.

Comparison of the trend in volumes mailed out, requests answered, and expenditures, is shown in Figure 16. This type of chart has been explained previously in this study.<sup>109</sup> The significance of the figure is this: It shows that during the last 15 years the number of requests answered increased at a relatively rapid rate up to the year 1933, in which there was a rather marked decline. The total in 1932 was more than seventeen hundred per cent (1,700%) greater than that in 1920. Even in 1934, the second of two years' decline, the total was nearly 700 per cent greater than it was in 1920, but it signified a decline of almost 60 per cent from that in the peak year, 1932.

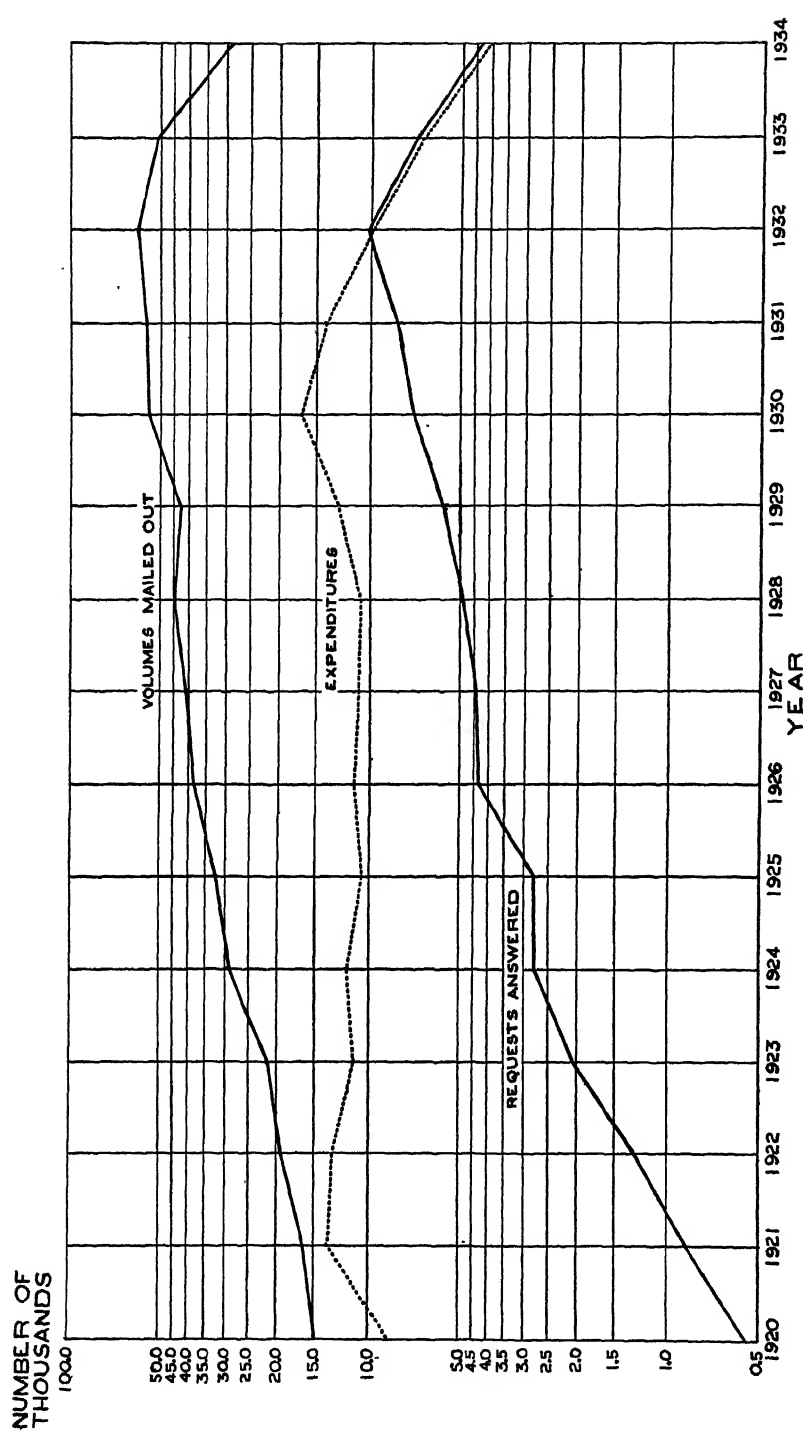


Fig. 16.—Number of Volumes Mailed Out, Requests Answered and Expenditures Authorized by the Missouri Library Commission, 1920-1934

The trend in volumes circulated (mailed out) approaches that for requests answered, but the rate of increase has not been as pronounced. This is probably due to the fact that year after year a larger number of requests have been recorded to individuals who, of course, receive fewer books per request than do communities, schools, and the various organizations that participate in the use of volumes. The trend for circulation like that of requests became one of decline after 1932.

But what is the significance of the recent decline in requests answered and in circulation? Does it mean that individuals and various organizations have had less need for this library service, a lessening which is reflected in the recent trends as shown? Does it mean that the purpose of the Library Commission has been achieved and that its service is to continue downward? Does it mean, contrary to late trends in public library circulation, that people read fewer books during the depression? The obvious answer to these and other similar questions is, no.

Replies to these inquiries are largely obtained through study of the trend in expenditures. These expenditures are, it is to be borne in mind, synonymous with the funds that are appropriated for maintenance of the Commission and its activities. Funds are appropriated biennially and the sum is then allocated, annually, for the several phases of the Commission's work. The expenditure curve in Figure 16 shows the trend for the last fifteen years, beginning with 1920, while the exact amounts are indicated in Table 32.

It is significant that expenditures have not kept pace with the trend in service. This statement should not be misconstrued. There is no intention to suggest that expenditures should increase at the same rate as the number of requests answered increases. However, Table 32 shows that little ground has been gained, in terms of appropriations, during the Commission's existence. Appropriations received cannot be considered an index of the amount of service that has been rendered to the people of the state. Funds have been provided, rather, on the basis of past allocations. Of course, it was inevitable that funds for this agency, like those for nearly all others, had to be severely curtailed during the recent financial emergency. The result of this restriction was a decline

TABLE 32.—EXPENDITURES BY THE MISSOURI LIBRARY COMMISSION, 1920-1934

Year	Expenditure	Year	Expenditure
1920	\$8,608.01	1928	\$10,761.91
1921	13,593.68	1929	12,713.73
1922	13,140.45	1930	17,029.37
1923	11,196.19	1931	14,321.09
1924	11,827.55	1932	10,083.18
1925	10,544.47	1933	6,708.03
1926	11,394.43	1934	4,136.71
1927	10,887.78		



in the number of requests answered, due to necessary retrenchments which were partially reflected in the subsequent reduction of the administrative personnel.<sup>110</sup> This came at a time when reading matter was perhaps in greater demand than ever before. It was impossible for the Commission to answer hundreds of requests that were received.

Through this mandatory reduction in service, individual borrowers suffered most. In 1934 fewer books were mailed to all the borrower classifications, but proportionately the individual requests were answered less frequently. Requests from schools, however, were answered more often, proportionately. A percentage distribution of requests answered from 1927-1934 is shown in Figure 17. Thus it is seen that since 1930 the percentage for individuals has steadily declined, while for schools it has increased. The reason

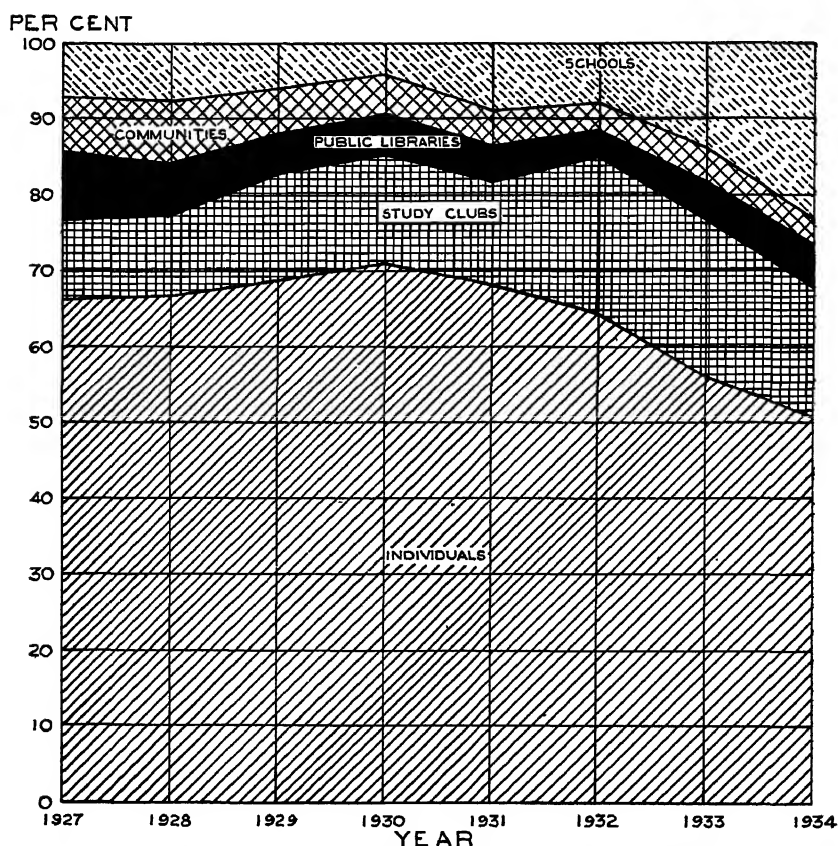


Fig. 17.—Percentage Distribution of Requests Answered by the Missouri Library Commission, 1927-1934.

<sup>110</sup>In January, 1934, the staff was reduced to the secretary and one shipping clerk.

for this is that, since individual requests require more attention per volume involved, the reduced staff was unable to comply with as large a percentage of the former as they could of the latter—the larger, less frequent, requests from high schools. It should be remembered that Figure 17 shows percentages and not amounts. Thus, for example, the number of requests answered for public libraries in 1934 did not increase in absolute amount over the preceding years but a larger percentage of all requests were so filled. The exact amounts and percentages for this chart are included in Table 30.

Returning again to Figure 16, it is noted that in both 1931 and 1932 the number of requests continued to increase at a relatively rapid rate. This was the case even though available funds were tending downward at a similar rate. Not, however, until during 1933 did the number of requests answered indicate decline. Then, they declined along with expenditures and at about the same rate. It should be pointed out, however, that the decline in expenditures in 1931 and 1932 was actually a reduction from the peak in 1930. But the fall in 1932 was such that it established the lowest expenditure for any year since 1920. Even so, the number of requests answered continued upward, giving an indication of what the Commission has accomplished in the face of reduced income. The cut in appropriations in the following year was drastic and the result, as previously stated, has been restriction of service rendered. Expenditures in 1920 were twice those in 1934 and the former was the previous low year during the period considered. The expenditure in 1930 was more than three times that in 1934 and twice the amount in 1920.

The foregoing is revealing but it does not fully disclose the situation. Only the book service of the Commission has been considered. The function of library extension has almost ceased. This is a natural result of personnel reductions that have been forced by lack of funds.

Extension work to assist in establishing libraries and to advise and in other ways to aid existing libraries is one of the major purposes of the Commission. Without especially strong initiative on the part of local leadership in Missouri's rural sections, the extension of library service, if there is to be any, depends upon the organizational activities of the Commission.

Since the Commission was created in 1907 its annual reports have consistently indicated financial limitations which have hindered if not prevented this function, which is one of its most important responsibilities.

From the foregoing it is clear that the Commission has been rendering an outstanding service in the face of financial difficulties.

Apparently the Missouri Library Association has been fully aware of the situation just set forth and has given the matter extended consideration. On November 7, 1935, it adopted a proposal for a state library service involving legislative enactment,<sup>111</sup> the chief provisions of which are:

1. That the General Assembly of Missouri be urged to create a central library agency. This agency, the plan states, might well be the Missouri Library Commission with extension of its present scope.
2. That the central agency be the coordinating unit for a proposed regional system of state libraries, deposit stations, and book truck service. Through this system, it said, adequate library service would be possible to every school, to every village and to every rural community.
3. Provision is also made for the establishment and maintenance of a legislative reference library in the state capitol for the use of the senators, representatives, and officers of the state government. This would be a function of the central library.
4. It is likewise proposed that the central library agency serve not only to examine candidates and to grant certifications but to assist librarians unemployed to secure positions.

This plan was recommended as "the most practical and the most efficient and the least expensive of all plans to provide library service to the residents of cities, villages, rural districts and to schools."<sup>112</sup>

### III SUMMARY

#### Public Library Facilities.

1. There are 135 public libraries in Missouri. Only 52 are tax supported, a few receive municipal aid, four are endowed, and those remaining are maintained by various other sources of revenue.
2. Only 44 counties (including the city-county of St. Louis) out of 115 in this state have tax supported libraries within their boundaries. An additional 43 have non-tax supported, while 28 counties have no public libraries of any description. Most of the latter are south of the Missouri River and are in the Ozark Region.
3. There are 1,740,897 people who are not served by public libraries. This is 48 per cent of the total population of the state and pertains almost exclusively to rural people. Of this group approximately 95 per cent has no access to public library facilities.

<sup>111</sup>*State Library Plan of Missouri*, op. cit.

<sup>112</sup>In addition to information contained in this study and the citations included, the reader is referred to *The Missouri Library Association Handbook for 1935*.

On the other hand, more than 95 per cent of the urban population is served. The contrast is one of rural-urban inequality of facilities, an inequality toward which every county contributes.

4. Missouri ranks second in the percentage of total population served when compared with adjoining states. But when compared with all states, it ranks twenty-fifth, which is below the percentage for the United States as a whole. When only the percentage of the rural population that is served is compared, Missouri's rank among the adjoining states falls, conspicuously, to seventh.

5. Public libraries contain 2,193,965 volumes. About three-fourths of these are in the five largest cities, which contain some 40 per cent of the total state population.

6. While the total number of volumes in libraries has increased in every year since 1925, still there are only six tenths (0.6) volumes per capita. This is well below the per capita for the United States.

7. More than eleven and one-half million books were circulated in 1934. This total, however, was unusually large. The circulation per capita in the same year was almost three and one-half volumes, a marked increase over that in 1925.

8. Data from libraries reporting show that the circulation per borrower was a little more than 15 volumes in 1934. This was below the average for the preceding 10 years (1925-1934) and was considerably below that of 18.6 volumes in 1932.

9. About one-half of the public libraries do not include newspapers in their service, while nearly 20 per cent have no magazines or other periodicals.

10. Full-time public librarians have an average of 11 years' experience, while the average for part-time is little more than three years. Approximately 90 per cent of these librarians have served only in the library from which they reported and only one out of every five has attended a library school.

11. The annual salary for full-time librarians in tax supported libraries is \$942. This average increases as the population of the place where the librarian serves increases.

12. A sum of more than nine hundred thousand dollars was expended through public libraries in 1934. This expenditure amounted to only 27 cents per capita. Ninety-eight per cent of the total was expended by urban libraries.

13. Missouri's per capita expenditure compares favorably with that of her adjoining states but is below that for the United States.

14. Data from the libraries reporting indicate that from 1931 through 1933 total circulation increased about 15 per cent while total expenditures were decreasing by a similar amount.

15. In 1934, fifty-two cents of the "library dollar" were disbursed in the form of salaries, 17 cents for new books, three were spent for newspapers and periodicals, and the remaining 28 cents were consumed by all other expenditures.

### Other Library Facilities.

16. A sample comprising almost one-half of the high schools in this state provides the basis for the estimate that there are probably over one million volumes in high school libraries while there is an average of 1,400 volumes per school and a median of 950. However there is considerable variation in the number of volumes from school to school. The number of volumes varies directly with the size of the school while the number per student varies inversely.

17. Approximately 60 per cent of the high school libraries have newspapers, most of which are local weeklies, while nearly 40 per cent have none. Periodicals are found in about 80 per cent of these libraries.

18. In 1934 the average expenditure per high school for books, newspapers, and periodicals was a little more than \$120.

19. Part time student attendants are generally found instead of regular librarians in high school libraries.

20. Nearly one-half the high school libraries are available to the public but they are generally little used.

21. There are more than one and one-half million volumes in the college and university libraries in the state.

22. Librarians in college libraries are generally better trained and better salaried than those in public libraries.

23. College library facilities are available to the public in two-thirds of these institutions and in some cases this use is quite extensive.

24. More than 700,000 volumes were revealed by a sample which includes the major special libraries. Less than 20,000 volumes were reported in a sample of institutional libraries. These facilities are reported as being insufficient in several respects.

25. It appears reasonable to estimate that there are more than 30,000 volumes in several hundred rental collections which are distributed throughout the state. Small rental collections seem to have been established in large numbers during the recent financial emergency.

26. The Missouri Library Commission, which is the state central library agency, has approximately 36,000 volumes.

27. The largest proportion of all requests answered by the Commission are those made by individuals, but the greatest proportion of the total number of volumes sent out is forwarded to communities.

28. Funds which have been available for the actives of the State Library Commission have not been large enough to provide adequately for the extension and maintenance of the Commission's service.

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## V. APPENDIX

## SURVEY OF LIBRARY FACILITIES IN MISSOURI PUBLIC LIBRARY\* ( )

(NOTE: Throughout the questionnaire please indicate in *every* instance where an *ESTIMATE* and not a *RECORD* has been used as a basis for your answer)

1. LOCAL NAME OF LIBRARY-----
2. COUNTY----- 3. CITY----- 4. TOWNSHIP-----
5. STREET ADDRESS-----
6. DATE ESTABLISHED-----  
(month) (year)
7. ESTABLISHED BY WHOM? (Name of individual or organization)-----
8. WHERE IS LIBRARY HOUSED? (Designate as: own building, municipal building, etc.)-----
9. WHEN IS LIBRARY OPEN?  
(a) Number of hours per day-----  
(b) Number of days per week-----  
(c) Which days-----  
(d) Number of months per year-----  
(e) Which months-----
10. IS THE LIBRARY TAX SUPPORTED? Yes ( ) No ( )  
(a) Has library always been tax supported? Yes ( ) No ( )  
If not, when did it become tax supported?-----  
(b) If not tax supported, what is the source of revenue?-----
11. DOES LIBRARY HAVE A RENTAL COLLECTION? Yes ( ) No ( )  
If so, how many books are for rental ----- and what are the fees?-----
12. TOTAL NUMBER OF VOLUMES IN LIBRARY (*January 1st*)  
(Please give number for as many of the following years as possible, as of January 1st each year)  
1925----- 1928----- 1931----- 1934-----  
1926----- 1929----- 1932----- 1935-----  
1927----- 1930----- 1933-----
13. NUMBER OF VOLUMES PURCHASED:  
(Please give number for as many of the following years as possible)  
1925----- 1928----- 1931----- 1934-----  
1926----- 1929----- 1932-----  
1927----- 1930----- 1933-----
14. NUMBER OF VOLUMES DONATED:  
(Please give number for as many of the following years as possible)  
1925----- 1928----- 1931----- 1934-----  
1926----- 1929----- 1932-----  
1927----- 1930----- 1933-----
15. CIRCULATION:  
(a) Total number of volumes circulated:  
(Please give number for as many of the following as possible)  
1925----- 1928----- 1931----- 1934-----  
1926----- 1929----- 1932-----  
1927----- 1930----- 1933-----  
(b) During what *one month* in 1934 were the *most* books circulated? (Considering *only* the *months* during which the library was *open*) -----  
(month) (number of books)  
(c) During what *one month* in 1934 were the *fewest* books circulated? (Considering *only* the *months* during which the library was *open*) -----  
(month) (number of books)  
(d) How many books were used by people living on farms in 1934?-----  
(Please estimate the number if there is no record)

\*This schedule was changed slightly for other types of libraries.

- (e) Is there any indication of an increase in farm circulation? Yes ( )  
No ( )
- (f) How many books were used by negroes in 1934?-----  
(Please estimate the number if there is no record)
- (g) Is there any indication of an increase in negro circulation? Yes ( )  
No ( )
16. LIBRARIANS: (If space is lacking in the form below please use the reverse side of this page)

	Name	An- nual salary	Education						Experience	
			Attended library schools?			Attended college?			No. of years	Names of libraries served
			No	Yes	Date	No	Yes	De- grees		
Full	1									
Time	2									
Libra-	3									
rians	4									
Part	1									
Time	2									
Libra-	3									
rians	4									
Volun-	1									
teer	2									
Libra-	3									
rians	4									

## 17. EXPENDITURES:

- (a) Total annual running expense in 1934 (To include lights, heat, rent, materials, etc., *exclusive* of salaries and new book expenditure)-----
- (b) Total expenditure for new books in 1934:-----  
(1) Fiction----- (2) Non-fiction-----
- (c) Total expenditure for newspapers and periodicals in 1934-----
18. HOW MANY DIFFERENT NEWSPAPERS IN THE LIBRARY?-----  
Please name them if the length is not prohibitive:-----  
-----  
-----  
-----

## 19. HOW MANY DIFFERENT PERIODICALS IN THE LIBRARY?-----

Please name them if the length is not prohibitive:-----  
-----  
-----  
-----



20. DO YOU DESIRE TO RECEIVE A COPY OF THIS STUDY OF LIBRARY FACILITIES IN MISSOURI UPON ITS COMPLETION?-----  
YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS WHICH WILL BE HIGHLY APPRECIATED MAY BE WRITTEN ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS SHEET.

(Information pertaining to other libraries in your city or county will be especially welcome. If possible will you please list all other libraries known to be in your city, such as: other public libraries, school, private, rental, church, and institutional libraries)

### Public Library Data, Classified by Cities and Counties

The following is an explanation of the accompanying table:

**Use of the word "none".**—Where this word appears in the "place" column it denotes that there is no public library in the county under which it is listed. Elsewhere in the table this word means that the library involved was not characterized by that indicated in the caption of the column.

**Use of the letter "N".**—If data were not reported or were insufficient, this letter (N) was substituted. Where there are several libraries in a county and if no information was obtained, this letter was placed opposite the county and spaces opposite cities (libraries) were left blank.

**Cities preceded by an asterisk.**—This mark (\*) indicates a library that does not entirely measure up to the definition of a public library given in this study.

**Average annual circulation.**—Average circulations were found where data were available. These averages were computed from as many of the last ten years (1925-1934) as information was obtained for. A total average (so called) was found for each county and for the state. These consist of totals derived by adding the averages for the libraries. The circulation in 1934 was extraordinary and in order to find a more typical approximation of the total circulation as it might be for all existing libraries, by counties and for the state, this procedure was employed. An objection to this calculation is the fact that all averages are not computed from the same number of observations. Some include 10 years while others include less. However, tax supported libraries account for more than 90 per cent of the total circulation in this state. Nearly all averages for these libraries were found from reports for 10 years. A number of libraries are new and some of these have been in existence considerably less than one year. Obviously no data were forthcoming from such organizations. If circulation in 1934 was all that could be reported or all that could be determined it was carried over as the average circulation. This

was done for the purpose of obtaining county and state total averages which would contain all libraries.

**Average annual expenditure.**—This was found in a manner similar to that employed in obtaining average annual circulation.

**Per capita computations.**—These were made for cities, counties, and the state. They were obtained excluding the population from which no data were available. For example: If one out of three libraries in a given county was not represented in the data, the population of the place was deducted from that of the county. The resultant total was then used in computation of the per capita in question. State per capitas were found similarly. Actually this amounts to pretending that the library, or place, from which no information was recorded is not in existence insofar as these per capitas are concerned. The letter "N" is the cue for population omitted in the calculations.

**Other considerations.**—New libraries made the major contribution to the number of cases represented by insufficient or no data. The absence of records also frequently contributed to this shortcoming. Most of the material for this table was made possible by the current investigation. However, when that obtained by the schedules was incomplete, other sources were sought for possible completion of the table. Two such sources so used were the Annual Reports of the Missouri Library Commission and a recent survey of social resources in this state.



Place	Population (1930)	Date found- ed	Tax sup- port	No. of volumes	Circulation			Expenditure			Per Capita			
					Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Vol- umes	Av. cir.	Cir. last year	Exp. last year
Butler County	23,697	1916	Yes	14,486	75,294	9	91,302	5,305.18	10	4,953.56	0.61	3.18	3.85	.209
Poplar Bluff	7,551			14,486	75,294		91,302	5,305.18		4,953.56	1.92	9.97	12.09	.703
Population served	16,146													.656
Pop not served														
Caldwell County	12,509	1916	No	10,381	19,855	6	19,995	1,010.77	4	672.10	0.83	1.59	1.60	.081
Braymer	933	1921	Yes	1,126	3,186	10	3,089	80.15	10	41.87	1.21	3.41	3.31	.086
Population served	1,572			9,255	16,669		16,906	930.62		630.23	5.89	10.60	10.75	.592
Pop not served														.401
Callaway County	2,505	1908	Yes	9,659	23,184	10	26,229	2,763.14	10	1,707.06	0.48	1.16	1.32	.086
Population served	10,004			9,659	23,184		26,229	2,763.14		1,707.06	1.58	3.80	4.30	.280
Pop not served	6,105													
Fulton	19,923	1934	No	1,201	N	N	N	N	N	N	0.13			
Population served	6,105			815							1.16			
Pop not served	13,818			386							1.80			
Camden County	9,142	1934	No	1,201	N	N	N	N	N	N	0.13			
Camden	1,700	1934	No	815							1.16			
Population served	214			386							1.80			
Pop not served	914													
Cape Girardeau County	8,228	1922	Yes	21,303	104,683	10	117,846	8,106.75	10	7,998.03	0.64	3.15	3.55	.241
Population served	33,203	1926	Yes	15,424	68,774	7	77,502	6,163.46	7	6,082.54	0.95	4.24	4.78	.375
Cape Girardeau	16,227			5,879	35,909		40,344	1,943.29		1,915.49	2.38	14.57	16.37	.777
Population served	2,465													
Pop not served	18,692													
Carroll County	14,511	1928	No	1,243	6,275	1	3,590	143.66	2	141.23	0.06	0.32	0.18	.071
Population served	19,940	1932	No	300	200	2	200	(None)	2	(None)	0.07	0.05	0.05	.000
Carrollton	4,058			943	6,075		3,390	143.66		141.23	0.79	5.11	2.85	.119
Population served	1,190													
Pop not served	5,248													
Carters County	14,692	1932	No	988	601	3	1,409	13.09	2	21.41	0.18	0.11	0.26	.004
Population served	5,503			988	601		1,409	13.09		21.41	2.86	1.74	4.08	.062
Van Buren	345													
Population served	345													
Pop not served	5,158													
Cass County	20,962	1903	No	1,958	4,625	5	5,414	44.93	2	59.00	0.09	0.22	0.26	.003
*Harrisonville	2,306	N	No	1,108	1,325	2	1,814	44.93		59.00	0.48	0.57	0.79	.019
Population served	2,330			850	3,300		3,600	(None)		(None)	0.36	1.42	1.55	.000
Pop not served	4,636													
Cedar County	11,136	1934	No	527	N	N	N	N	N	N	0.05			
*Eldorado Springs	9,917			527							0.27			
Population served	9,917													
Pop not served	9,917													

Population estimated



Place	Population (1930)	Date found— ed	Tax sup- port	No. of volumes	Circulation			Expenditure			Per Capita			
					Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Vol- umes	Av. cir.	Cir. last year	Exp. last year
<b>DeKalb County</b>	10,270			718	N	N								
Clarkdale	302	1935	No	230										
Stewartville	520	1934	No	488										
Population served	822													
Pop. not served	9,448													
<b>Dekalb County</b>	10,974	1930	No	1,106	6,330	3	7,000	73.06	2	74.00	0.10	0.58	.007	.003
Salem	2,250			1,106	6,330		7,000	73.06		74.00	0.49	2.81	.032	.033
Population served	2,250													
Pop. not served	8,724													
<b>Douglas County</b>	13,959													
(None)														
Pop. not served	13,959													
<b>Dunklin County</b>	35,799													
Campbell	1,592	1933	No	8,531	31,912	1	32,611	685.33		928.78	0.24	0.89	.020	.027
*Camwell	861	1933	No	1,002	1,600	1	1,600	746		N	0.63	1.01	.051	.051
Kennett	4,128	1930	No	796	746	1	746	44.00	1	44.00	0.92	0.87	.081	.081
Malden	2,025	1932	No	4,022	23,283	3	23,982	504.33	3	751.78	1.12	5.64	.182	.182
Population served				2,111	6,283	1	6,283	133.00	1	133.00	1.04	3.10	.066	.066
Pop. not served														
<b>Franklin County</b>	27,193													
*Sullivan	30,519	1934	No	6,042	23,830	4	32,577	1,878.06	3	1,846.62	0.20	0.84	1.1.	.066
Washington	2,013	1924	Yes	1,000	23,830		32,577	1,878.06		N	0.30	5.50	.317	.312
Population served	5,918													
Pop. not served														
<b>Gasconade County</b>	12,172													
(None)														
Pop. not served	12,172													
<b>Gentry County</b>	14,348													
Albany	1,858	1885	Yes	8,096	15,252	8	12,222	1,764.96	10	1,234.86	0.56	1.06	.085	.086
Population served				8,096	15,252		12,222	1,764.96		1,234.86	4.36	8.21	.658	.665
Pop. not served														
<b>Greene County</b>	82,929													
Springfield	57,527	1905	Yes	53,119	211,257	10	324,193	24,562.97	10	24,237.07	0.64	2.55	3.91	.292
Population served				53,119	211,257		324,193	24,562.97		24,237.07	0.92	3.67	5.64	.421
Pop. not served														
<b>Grundy County</b>	16,135													
Trenton	6,992	1889	No	11,268	16,465	6	14,933	2,522.74	9	1,781.00	0.70	1.02	.093	.110
Population served				11,268	16,465		14,933	2,522.74		1,781.00	1.61	2.35	2.14	.361
Pop. not served														.255
<b>Harrison County</b>	17,233													
Bethany	2,209	1921	No	6,520	7,474	9	8,232	403.90	10	439.30	0.38	0.43	0.48	.023
Population served				6,520	7,474		8,232	403.90		439.30	2.95	3.38	3.73	.318
Pop. not served														.199



Place	Population (1930)	Date found- ed	Tax port	No. of volumes	Circulation		Expenditure		Per Capita								
					Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Vol- umes	Av. cir.	Cir. last year	Exp. last year			
<b>Johnson County</b>	5,146	1914	No	5,497	N												
Warrensburg	5,146			5,497													
Population served	17,267																
Pop. not served	9,658																
(None)																	
Pop. not served	9,658																
<b>Laclede County</b>	16,320	1905	No	3,729	7,173												
Lebanon	3,562			3,729	7,173												
Population served	12,758																
Pop. not served	29,259																
<b>Lafayette County</b>	3,339	1928	No	9,942	22,036												
Higginsville	4,595	1919	No	2,875	12,041												
Lexington				7,067	9,595												
Population served	7,934																
Pop. not served	21,325																
<b>Lawrence County</b>	3,875	1919	Yes	7,324	24,484												
Aurora	1,342	1934	No	5,822	21,404												
Mt. Vernon	1,135		Yes	822	N												
Pierce City				1,050	3,080												
Population served	6,352																
Pop. not served	17,923																
<b>Lewis County</b>	12,093	1929	Yes	5,291	22,320												
Canon	2,044	1932	No	3,400	17,924												
La Grange	1,160			1,991	4,366												
Population served	3,204																
Pop. not served	8,889																
<b>Lincoln County</b>	13,929	1929	No	1,775	2,400												
Troy	1,419	1934	No	1,700	2,400												
Whiteside	119			75	N												
Population served	1,538																
Pop. not served	12,391																
<b>Linn County</b>	23,339	1915	Yes	20,036	64,797												
Brookfield	6,428	1928	No	11,228	33,736												
Bucklin	932			1,250	2,400												
Marceline	3,555	1920	No	7,558	28,661												
Population served	10,915																
Pop. not served	12,424																
<b>Livingston County</b>	18,615	1921	No	8,115	22,940												
*Chillicothe	8,177			8,115	22,940												
Population served	10,438																
Pop. not served	13,936																
<b>McDonald County</b>																	
(None)																	
Pop. not served	13,936																



PEOPLE WITH AND WITHOUT PUBLIC FACILITIES, NUMBER OF VOLUMES, CIRCULATION, AND EXPENDITURES, CLASSIFIED BY CITIES AND COUNTIES. (Continued)

Place	Population (1930)	Date founded	Tax sup- port	No. of volumes	Circulation			Expenditure			Per Capita			
					Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Vol- umes	Av. cir.	Cir. last year	Exp. last year
<b>Macon County</b>	23,070	1916	Yes	9,751	43,482	10	67,171	2,429.20	10	2,068.76	0.42	1.88	2.91	.105
Macon	3,851			9,751	43,482		67,171	2,429.20		2,068.76	2.53	11.29	17.44	.631
Population served	3,851													.090
Pop. not served	19,219													.537
<b>Madison County</b>	9,418	1934	Yes	2,628	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Fredericktown	2,954			2,628										
Population served	2,954													
Pop. not served	6,464													
<b>Marion County</b>	8,368													
(None)														
Pop. not served	8,368													
<b>Marion County</b>	33,493	1889	Yes	25,236	106,138	10	139,751	7,777.02	10	8,248.17	0.75	3.17	4.17	.246
Hannibal	22,761			25,236	106,138		139,751	7,777.02		8,248.17	1.11	4.40	6.14	.362
Population served	22,761													
Pop. not served	10,732													
<b>Merger County</b>	9,350	1927	No	2,000	1,800	1	1,800	55.00	1	55.00	0.21	0.19	0.19	.006
Princeton	1,509			2,000	1,800		1,800	55.00		55.00	1.33	1.19	1.19	.036
Population served	1,509													
Pop. not served	7,841													
<b>Miller County</b>	16,728	1925	Yes	1,712	11,296	1	11,296	258.61	6	424.60	0.10	0.68	0.68	.025
Population served	3,171			1,712	11,296		11,296	258.61		424.60	0.54	3.56	3.56	.134
Pop. not served	13,557													
<b>Missouri County</b>	15,762	1930	No	2,633	4,580	3	5,040	281.98	1	281.98	0.17	0.29	0.32	.018
Population served	3,357			2,633	4,580		5,040	281.98		281.98	0.78	1.36	1.50	.084
Pop. not served	12,405													
<b>Moniteau County</b>	12,173													
(None)														
Pop. not served	12,173													
<b>Monroe County</b>	13,466	1918	Yes	11,171	30,496	10	42,102	3,838.33	10	3,690.32	0.83	2.26	3.13	.274
Monroe City	1,820			5,025	16,941	10	21,493	1,662.25	10	1,484.44	2.26	9.31	11.81	.913
Paris	1,367	1915	Yes	6,146	13,555	10	20,609	2,176.08	10	2,208.68	4.50	9.91	15.08	1.614
Population served	3,187													
Pop. not served	10,279													
<b>Montgomery County</b>	13,011	1927	Yes	3,078	8,393	8	10,732	935.56	6	872.48	0.24	0.65	0.82	.067
Population served	1,510			3,078	8,393		10,732	935.56		872.48	2.04	5.56	7.11	.578
Pop. not served	11,501													

†A library located at Palmyra (pop. 1,967) in Marion county closed recently.



PEOPLE WITH AND WITHOUT PUBLIC FACILITIES, NUMBER OF VOLUMES, CIRCULATION, AND EXPENDITURES, CLASSIFIED BY CITIES AND COUNTIES. (Continued)

Place	Population (1930)	Date found- ed	Tax sup- port	Circulation			Expenditure			Per Capita					
				No. of volumes	Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Vol- umes	Av. cir. year	Cir. last year	Av. exp. year	Exp. last year
<b>Pike County</b>	18,001			13,406	18,372		21,547	2,176.25		1,397.42	0.74	1.02	1.19	.121	.077
Bowling Green	1,855	1899	No	1,950	2,449	1	2,449	255.99	1	96.39	1.05	1.32	1.32	.052	.052
Clarksville	739	1909	No	2,289	1,658	4	1,706	255.99	9	169.29	3.10	2.24	2.31	.346	.229
Eolia	565	1909	No	1,175	590	3	520					1.04	0.92		
Louisiana	3,549	1905	Yes	7,992	13,675	10	16,872	1,823.87	10	1,131.74	2.25	3.85	4.75	.514	.319
Population served	6,708														
Pop. not served	11,293														
<b>Platte County</b>	13,819			1,368	N		N				N				
Platte City	587	1928	No	368							0.10				
* Weston	1,028	1925	No	1,000							0.63				
Population served	1,615										0.97				
Pop. not served	12,204														
<b>Polk County</b>	17,803			6,026	15,144		18,752	1,450.41		1,247.41	0.34	0.85	1.05	.081	.070
Bolivar	2,256	1915	Yes	6,026	15,144	10	18,752	1,450.41	10	1,247.41	2.67	6.71	8.31	.643	.553
Population served	2,256														
Pop. not served	15,547														
<b>Pulaski County</b>	10,755														
(None)															
Pop. not served	10,755														
<b>Putnam County</b>	11,503			3,314	11,590		14,027	184.58		219.90	0.29	1.01	1.22	.016	.019
Unionville	1,811	1922	No	3,314	11,590	4	14,027	184.58	4	219.90	1.83	6.40	7.75	.102	.121
Population served	8,692														
Pop. not served	9,692														
<b>Ralls County</b>	10,704			2,000	2,687		5,157	28.99		10.00	0.19	0.25	0.48	.003	.001
New London	900	1926	No	2,000	2,687	6	5,157	28.99	6	10.00	2.22	2.99	5.73	.032	.011
Population served	900														
Pop. not served	9,804														
<b>Randolph County</b>	26,431			17,210	80,049		107,713	6,023.30		5,903.44	0.65	3.03	4.08	.228	.223
Huntsville	1,897	1916	Yes	3,235	16,498	9	15,159	1,223.77	10	1,004.59	1.71	8.70	7.99	.645	.530
Moberly	13,772	1904	Yes	13,975	63,551	10	92,554	4,799.53	10	4,898.85	1.01	4.61	6.72	.348	.356
Population served	15,669														
Pop. not served	10,762														
<b>Ray County</b>	19,846			4,107	8,094		8,401	251.92		180.00	0.21	0.41	0.42	.013	.009
Richmond	4,129	1917	No	4,107	8,094	9	8,401	251.92	4	180.00	0.99	1.96	2.03	.061	.044
Population served	15,717														
Pop. not served	15,717														
<b>Reynolds County</b>	8,923			1,000	N		N				N				
Ellington	655	1934	No	1,000	N		N				0.11				
Population served	655										1.53				
Pop. not served	8,268														
<b>Ripley County</b>	11,176			3,066	N		N				N				
Doniphan	1,398	1934	Yes	3,066	N		N				0.27				
Population served	1,398														
Pop. not served	9,778										2.19				

Place	Population (1930)	Date found- ed	Tax sup- port	No. of volumes	Circulation			Expenditure			Per Capita			Exp. last year
					Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Vol- umes	Av. cir.	Cir. last year	Av. exp.
<b>St. Charles County</b>	24,354			6,532	36,359			4,473.42		5,988.97	0.27	1.49	3.16	.246
St. Charles	10,491	1913	Yes	6,532	36,359	10	76,948	4,473.42	4	5,988.97	0.62	3.47	7.33	.571
Population served	10,491													
Pop. not served	13,863													
<b>St. Charles County</b>	13,863			4,262	9,642			328.57		153.00	0.32	0.73	0.76	.012
St. Charles	1,136	1924	No	4,262	9,642	9	10,079	328.57	8	153.00	0.32	0.73	0.76	.012
Population served	1,136													
Pop. not served	1,043	1934	No	1,487	4,021	1	4,021	40.65	1	40.65	1.43	3.86	3.86	.039
<b>St. Francis County</b>	11,110			9,777	32,102			1,894.79		1,951.98	0.27	1.04	1.37	.064
St. Francis	35,832	1905	No	9,777	32,102	10	41,961	1,894.79	2	1,951.98	0.27	1.04	1.37	.064
Population served	35,832													
Pop. not served	4,021	1915	Yes	4,192	14,192	7	15,383	1,733.81	10	651.83	0.23	4.73	5.12	.217
<b>St. Louis County</b>	5,112			1,200	11,134			12,535.02		12,920.36	0.14	0.84	1.19	.061
St. Louis	9,169	1924	Yes	28,799	176,988	10	250,783	12,535.02	8	12,920.36	0.14	0.84	1.19	.061
Population served	9,169													
Pop. not served	16,487	1927	Yes	11,935	118,366	5	149,033	8,604.33	6	8,669.01	0.72	7.18	9.04	.526
<b>St. Louis County</b>	15,000			813,916	3,415,831			555,912.49		555,912.49	0.99	4.16	4.96	.595
St. Louis	2,662	1934	No	1,112	6,220	1	6,220	181.85	1	181.85	0.11	0.62	0.62	.018
Population served	2,662													
Pop. not served	3,478	1927	Yes	6,396	24,778	5	31,287	1,962.79	5	1,359.70	0.21	0.81	1.02	.044
<b>Saline County</b>	27,120			6,396	24,778			1,962.79		1,359.70	0.21	0.81	1.02	.044
Saline	6,951	1934	No	1,112	6,220	1	6,220	181.85	1	181.85	0.11	0.62	0.62	.018
Population served	6,951													
Pop. not served	1,728	1906	No	1,404	1,039	10	1,046	N	N	N	0.16	0.12	0.12	.039
<b>Schuyler County</b>	8,853			1,404	1,039			N		N	0.16	0.12	0.12	.039
Schuyler	2,902	1929	Yes	4,693	17,589	5	20,787	726.86	4	320.67	0.19	0.71	0.83	.029
Population served	2,902													
Pop. not served	5,676	1929	No	2,648	13,279	5	15,434	361.58	6	199.05	0.47	0.76	0.96	.039
<b>Shannon County</b>	10,894			5,786	30,184			1,331.88		1,331.88	0.17	0.71	0.83	.029
Shannon	1,826	1918	Yes	5,786	30,184	10	47,570	1,331.88	10	1,547.54	0.17	0.71	0.83	.029
Population served	1,826													
Pop. not served	10,157													

†A library at Desloge (pop. 4,000) is to be open by 1936.  
# Population estimated.

PEOPLE WITH AND WITHOUT PUBLIC FACILITIES, NUMBER OF VOLUMES, CIRCULATION, AND EXPENDITURES, CLASSIFIED BY CITIES AND COUNTIES. (Continued)

Place	Population (1930)	Date found- ed	Tax sup- port	No. of volumes	Circulation		Expenditure		Per Capita		
					Average annual	No. yrs. in av.	Last year (1934)	Vol- umes	Av. cir.	Cir. last year	Exp. last year
Stoddard County	27,452										
# Bloomfield	1,023	1915	No	1,600		N					.001
Bexter	2,714	1935	No	800							.024
Pop. not served	3,737			800							
Stone County	11,614										
(None)											
Pop. not served	11,614										
Sullivan County	15,212										
(None)											
Taney County	8,867	1933	No	550	3,130	1	3,130				
Population served	958			550	3,130		68.78	0.06	0.35	0.35	.008
Pop. not served	7,909						68.78	0.57	3.27	3.27	.072
Texas County	690	1921	No	977	2,660	4	1,927	0.05	0.14	0.10	.003
Population served	17,890			977	2,660		46.70	1.42	3.86	2.79	.026
Pop. not served	25,031			6,700	27,153	10	29,003	0.27	1.08	1.16	.086
Vernon County	7,448	1916	Yes	6,700	27,153		2,891.36	0.90	3.63	3.89	.285
Population served	17,448						2,891.36				
Pop. not served	17,583										
Washington County	8,082										
(None)											
Washington County	14,450										
Pop. not served	14,450										
Wayne County	12,243										
Pop. not served	12,243										
Webster County	1,378	1911	Yes	3,795	18,819	10	19,437	0.24	1.17	1.20	.048
Population served	14,725			3,795	18,819		773.77	2.75	13.66	14.11	.562
Pop. not served	6,535			2,804	4,510		773.77				.448
Worth County	1,126	1922	No	2,804	4,510	9	2,776	0.43	0.69	0.42	.038
Population served	5,409			2,804	4,510		332.92	2.49	4.01	2.47	.296
Pop. not served	16,741			1,962	3,193	3	2,865	0.12	0.19	0.17	.002
Wright County	2,229	1934	No	1,962	3,193		25.43	0.88	1.43	1.29	.011
Population served	12,512										
Pop. not served	3,629										
The State	1,888,470		52	2,193,965	8,384,390	11,558,048	1,078,084.21	0.60	2.47	3.41	.275
Population served	1,740,897										
Pop. not served											

†A library located at Cabool (pop. 908) closed recently.





